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SEAFARING

THE ORGAN OF THE SEAFARING CLASS,
INCLUDING THE FISHERMEN OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.
A Weekly Newspaper for Seafaring Folk and their Friends.

No. 129.—VOL. 6. [Registered at the
General Post Office.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 1891.

[For Transmission
Abroad as a Newspaper.] ONE PENNY.

NATIONAL UNION OF DOCK LABOURERS IN GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO DOCKERS.

46, HANOVER STREET,
LIVERPOOL.

March, 1891.

FELLOW MEMBERS,

As you are doubtless aware, SEAFARING, a weekly newspaper published in London, is the official Organ of the Seamen's and Firemen's Union. To its fearless and sterling advocacy is largely due the great success which has attended the efforts of the Union officials to improve the condition of their Members. In it is to be found the fullest and most reliable information of the workings of the Seamen's Union throughout the United Kingdom.

The interests of the Seamen, the Firemen, and the Dockers are, if not identical, closely related to each other, and it is of the utmost importance that the Members of each Union should know what the Members of the other are doing. That a proper and friendly understanding should exist between the Members of the two Unions this knowledge is necessary, and it can be had through the columns of SEAFARING. We have arranged with the Editor of SEAFARING that a large section of its space shall be devoted to the cause of the Dockers. In it will be found reliable reports, official reports of the work of the Dockers' Union, reports on the condition of trade in the various Ports where we have Branches, and items of such general news as will be of use to Dock Labourers. Questions affecting both Unions will be dealt with in SEAFARING.

We have, therefore, much pleasure in recommending SEAFARING to our Members, and inviting them to buy it and read it as the Organ which in future will spare no pains to promote the cause of the Dockers, side by side with the cause of their brethren of the Seamen's and Firemen's Union.

It can be had from Newsagents, or through the Branch Secretaries.

We are, yours faithfully,

R. M'GHEE, President,

EDWARD McHUGH, Gen. Sec.

IN THE DOG WATCH.

Mr. J. H. Wilson has been imprisoned for six weeks, and but for the sake of his wife, who is so dangerously ill that the separation may prove fatal to her, there is as much occasion for rejoicing as for indignation on the part of his friends.

And why? Simply because Mr. Wilson's enemies, by obtaining his imprisonment under circumstances which secure him the sympathy and respect of all honest persons, have enormously increased his influence, and thereby helped the cause of the seamen.

As the cause will thus gain by his suffering, Mr. Wilson is not the man to object to a few weeks' imprisonment—especially as he will emerge the hero of the hour, and his sentence will serve to call attention to the infamy and absurdity of the class-made laws of this country—laws framed by the rich, idling, and consequently criminal classes for the purpose of robbing and oppressing the toilers.

Mr. Wilson's sentence, by arousing the indignation of all honest people, gives an impetus to the cause of revolution, which is certainly a matter for rejoicing.

On the other hand, the temporary loss of his services to the Union, his separation from his family at a time so critical for them, and the usual hardships of imprisonment, are all, of course, to be deplored.

But the Union will gain more in the long run by his increased influence than it will suffer by the temporary loss of his services, while the hardships of imprisonment are luxury itself compared with the hardships which Mr. Wilson, like other seamen, has too often undergone at sea.

Moreover, the crown of martyrdom which has been conferred on him is the highest honour that any man can gain on earth, and seamen have more reason than ever to be proud of him.

Scene: A London street, after midnight. Man with medal for bravery (and therefore of more than ordinary courage) trying to pass crowd of more or less drunken prostitutes: Disgraceful! Surely this is "an unlawful assembly."

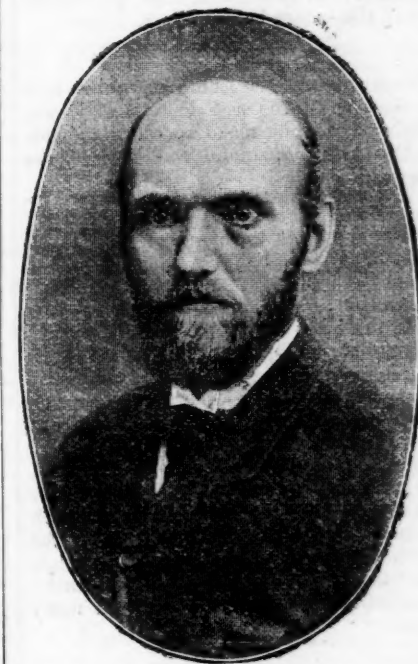
Policeman: No, Sir; they don't belong to no Union.

Chorus of Newsboys: Special eddishun! —'Orrible murder!—Shocking revelations! Householder: Hi, policeman! Here, lock these rascals up. My grandmother, who was courageous enough to marry my grandfather, has her nerves shocked by this unlawful assembly."

Policeman: Can't be done, Sir. Them boys don't belong to no Union. Only Trade Unionists can be guilty of unlawful assembly.

Under the heading of "Too True" we publish a letter on page 14 from a captain who, for fear of boycotting by the ship-owners, has to sign himself "Short Tom Coffin." That letter we commend to the attention of masters and officers as vitally concerning them.

Here is a portrait of



MR. RICHARD M'GHEE,

President of the National Union of Dock Labourers in Great Britain and Ireland, an account of whose career, written by a clergyman who knows him, will be found on page 6 of this week's SEAFARING.

Mr. Laws, of the Shipping Federation, is innocently surprised that the *Engineers' Gazette* should have said his Federation had discharged firemen for no fault but being Union men. The editor of the *Engineers' Gazette* retorts with the case of the discharge of the Unionist crew of the steamer *Caerloch*

at Plymouth last February, on the authority of the *Standard*, of Feb. 17 last. Some of our readers could, no doubt, supply Mr. Laws with other cases.

The Admiralty, it seems, wants more seamen, and especially more firemen, for the Naval Reserve, and is making inquiries how to get them.

These inquiries, being made among ship-owners, instead of among seamen and firemen, are not likely to come to much.

If the Admiralty addressed their questions to seamen and firemen, it would be found that the patriotism of seafaring men is simply being killed by the infamous treatment which they receive, and by the growing feeling that it is not worth while to fight for a country where seamen are so cruelly oppressed.

The Admiralty would also find that if the Reserve is to attract men, some system must be devised of enabling men to drill without being thrown out of employment. Much more the Admiralty might find out if the right men were asked, but "my lords" of that department cannot condescend to consult the seamen and firemen, who, thus slighted by them, will be less anxious than ever to join.

If seamen hold aloof from the Naval Reserve of the country till the country redresses their grievances, their grievances will all the sooner be redressed.

Meanwhile, let the Admiralty press into the Reserve all the rich loafers who have nothing to do but make speeches upholding the existing shameful condition of the masses.

"No single fact which may tell in an owner's favour shall be omitted," is a sentence from a legal handbook instructing masters as to making entries in the Log Book, to which we lately called attention. It is not surprising that this exalted moral teaching is recommended by that eminently virtuous organ of the shipowners, *Fairplay*, whose own high standard of morality was shown in the recent action when *Fairplay* was convicted of libelling Mr. J. H. Wilson. We are glad to find that all shipmasters are not so bad, that one writes to correct such erroneous teaching, and to point out that the shipmaster's legal and moral position binds him "to do what is best for all concerned." No doubt a very difficult thing at many times.

It is stated that Mr. Henry Tait, of the Scottish Railway Servants' Society, has been offered and has accepted a seat on the Labour Commission.

BRITISH WRECKS IN MARCH.—The number and tonnage of British vessels respecting whose loss reports were received at the Board of Trade during the month of March, 1891, and the number of lives lost are as follows:—91 sailing vessels of 17,710 tonnage, 192 lives lost; 12 steamers of 12,437 tonnage, 617 lives lost (including 564 lives lost the *Utopia*); or a total of 103 vessels, 30,147 tonnage, 809 lives lost. This is a record of "reports received" in the month, and not of wrecks which occurred during the month. Many of the reports received in March relate to casualties which occurred in previous months. Casualties not resulting in total loss of vessels and the lives lost by such casualties are not included.

FOR THE SEAMEN

WILSON WINS MARTYRDOM AND MORE POPULARITY BY IMPRISONMENT.

The trial of Mr. J. H. Wilson, general secretary of the National Union of Seamen and Firemen, began at the Cardiff Quarter Sessions on Saturday for alleged unlawful connection with the recent strike at Cardiff, and naturally excited an immense amount of interest. The court and the approaches thereto were crowded.

Mr. Wilson (bailed on committal) was arraigned on an indictment charging him as follows:—"That, together with other persons to the number of 10 or more, he unlawfully and riotously did assemble to disturb the public peace, and then did make a great riot and disturbance to the terror of Her Majesty's subjects, these being at Cardiff."—The defendant pleaded not guilty.—Mr. Forrest Fulton, M.P., and Mr. Arthur Lewis (instructed by Mr. T. H. Belcher) were for the prosecution, and Mr. Abel Thomas, M.P., and Mr. Allan Upward (instructed by Mr. J. H. Jones) for the defendant.

THE JURY

was composed as follows:—Messrs. David Morgan, 5, Gordon-road, merchant; Lemuel Edward Perkins, 55, St. Mary-street, ironmonger; George Milton, 10, Womanby-street, cork manufacturer; John Hogg, 54, Queen-street, bookseller; Edwin Dobbin, 1, St. Mary-street, bookseller; Frederick Case, 23, High-street, fruiterer; Henry Thomas Box, 26, Richmond-road, occupation not stated; F. S. Harbridge, 13, Gordon-road, occupation not stated; Benjamin Kyte, 44, Caroline-street, butcher; Henry M. Tainsh, 4, High-street, jeweller; John Woodman, 11, Wharton-street, plumber; James Price, 2, Tudor-road, hotel proprietor.

CASE FOR THE PROSECUTION.

Mr. Forrest Fulton, M.P., in opening the case on behalf of the police authorities at Cardiff, said that men not on strike had been brought from Shields and Newcastle on Sunday, Feb. 15, and arrangements had been made with boarding-masters to receive them. There was a great demonstration on the part of the Union men—hissing, booing, and ejaculations of that sort—and it was with difficulty the men were conveyed to the houses prepared for them. On the morning after the non-Union men had arrived, defendant and his men, in marching order, proceeded down Bute-road, Sophia-street, Christina-street, and Maria-street. In these streets lived three of the witnesses—Mr. Gill, in Sophia-street, Mr. Beer at Christina-street, and Mr. Nelson, who lived at Maria-street—and who were boarding-masters, lodging in whose houses were men who had arrived on Sunday, and all non-Union men. The defendant halted his men opposite Gill's house, and shouted, "This is another scab-house where the blacklegs who came from Newcastle are." The houses were described as "scab-houses," a most objectionable expression, and non-Union men were called "blacklegs." Someone of the crowd said, "We shall wreck your house to-night," and the procession walked up and down in a threatening manner.

Mr. Thomas objected to Mr. Fulton dealing with what was said in the crowd.

The Recorder said he thought it would be best for Mr. Fulton to open his case, and when the evidence came he (the Recorder) would decide whether it was admissible or not.

Mr. Fulton, proceeding, said: So alarming was the crowd that a man named Thompson put up his shutters. The crowd remained outside Gill's about half an hour, and some of them rushed into the house, and called out they wanted the men from Shields. There was yelling, hooting, and calling of the men "blacklegs," and of the house a "scab-house." The crowd then went into Beer's house, getting there about ten o'clock in the morning. About twenty of the men forced their way in there, and here it must be remembered that if an unlawful assembly proceeded to overt acts, then that assembly became a riot. And it seemed to him there was abundant evidence of riot. The crowd then went to Maria-street and acted in the same way, the crowd yelling, and Wilson saying, "Halt, face; there is a scab-house, we will wreck it; we must have the blacklegs out." That was a thing Mr. Thomas would not justify even if he could. So serious was the behaviour that Mrs. Nelson was prematurely confined. Passing on, Mr. Fulton said the crowd had gone on to 177, Bute-road, which was occupied by another boarding-master, named

Anderson. Wilson led them, and called out, "This is a blackleg house; we will mark it, that it will be wrecked to-night; there will be blood there." He then proceeded to call

THE HEAD CONSTABLE,

McKenzie, who, examined by Mr. A. Lewis, said, on the night of Sunday, Feb. 15, a number of sailors arrived from the North, and when about ten of them had got into a cart, some of the strikers shouted, "Come with us." He saw some of the crowd take hold of some of the men in the carts, and pull one or two out. As the carts were driven away the crowd followed, hooting and yelling, with a great deal of violence.

Cross-examined: Some of the men in the carts showed Union tickets, and jumped out of the carts and joined the crowd. About ten came out of the first cart; he saw only those. For some little time before that there had been daily processions though Cardiff. The processions generally were not riotous. Mr. Wilson sometimes aided in keeping order.

Superintendent Tamblyn said he saw the crowd outside of Gill's house in Sophia-street, and followed them to the Colonial Hall. He believed he saw Gill, Beer, Anderson, and Nelson at the station. He saw several boarding-masters, but was not positive as to Nelson. Between nine and ten in the morning he saw a number of sailors outside the Union Home. Wilson was leading the crowd, and he heard him call out at the corner of West Bute-street, "Fall in, men; I know you are Union men by the look of you." (Laughter.)

Cross-examined: He saw men in the carts outside the station jump out. He thought all in the first cart jumped out, and some of the others. The crowd was a procession, which was disorderly. They behaved in a disorderly manner for several days.

A BUTE ROAD TRADESMAN,

William Foan, Bute-road, said he was standing at his door when he saw the procession stop opposite Gill's boarding-house. Wilson cried, "Half-face. This is No. 1 blacklegs. This is where the blacklegs is." He called for volunteers to get men out of this house. Six or seven men rushed out of the house into the passage, and men called, "Come out here, men; join the Union; don't be scabs." Everyone in the house and the passage seemed terrified. Witness was in the passage. There were young servant girls there, several men, and Mr. Gill. Witness followed them. Mr. Gill asked them what they wanted, and they replied, "We want those men's clothes." The men had made a rush to join the procession. Could not be on his oath that Wilson entered the house. They remained there ten or fifteen minutes. The noise was something excessive. He thought there were 250 to 300 men outside Gill's house. He (the witness) went and called the police. They formed again, Wilson heading them, into Christina-street, and stopped at Beer's boarding-house. Wilson gave the word "Halt" again, "Right face. This is No. 2 blacklegs." At that time witness had the police with him—one policeman, 309. Wilson again called for volunteers to get the blacklegs out. Mr. Wilson then stood close to the door, on the step on the pavement. Six or seven men rushed inside and jeered and cheered. None of the men came out from Beer's, and the people in the procession said, "Give us their clothes." They did not get any. Beer said, "Go to Captain Minto; we know nothing about any clothes." They made a second rush into the house. He then said, "Give me a haxe and I will soon clear the 'ouse." The crowd then went on.

In the course of a lengthy cross-examination, the witness said Wilson did his best to enter both the houses of Gill and Beer.

Mr. Thomas: What stopped him?

Witness: His conscience, perhaps. (Laughter.)

BOARDING-MASTERS.

William Gill, boarding-master, Sophia-street, said, on the morning of Feb. 16 he heard hooting on the part of the processionists. Five or six ran into his house, talking about some clothes, and asked men to join the Union. He told his boarders not to go. Eventually the men went.

Cross-examined: Neither he nor his lodgers were physically molested. Three of the men in his cart at the station on Sunday night bolted. He could not swear that it was not these men who came into his house for their clothes. He did not see the witness Foan in the passage.

Mr. Thomas: Is it untrue that they forced the three men out of your house?—Witness: I cannot say.

If Wilson succeeds with his Union your business will be gone?—Well, he is trying to do that.

But if he succeeds that will be the result?—Yes

Emmanuel Beer, boarding-master, Christina-street, said he had taken five of the men who came from the North on Sunday, Feb. 15. About 10.30 on Monday, some processionists made a rush into the house and asked for their clothes. They asked "Where are those men who came down from Shields along with us." They asked to go into the room to get the men out and to go to the station to get their clothes. Witness held the handle of the door, and refused to let them go in. Foan and a policeman cleared the passage. The whole thing only lasted about five minutes. He did not see Wilson at all.

MR. NELSON,

another boarding-house keeper, said he had taken three men of the batch that had arrived on the Sunday. He saw the procession, and Wilson carrying "a great big stick" in his hand at their head. Wilson halted the crowd and said "This is another scab-house; he has got some blacklegs here; we will wreck the house to-night." The crowd stayed about fifteen minutes, and defendant left about twenty men to watch the house. Witness was in the back kitchen, and stayed there till the crowd had gone. His wife had been confined three weeks ago, but she had been bad ever since the morning in question. He knew Mr. Wilson.

Mr. Thomas: And I suppose you have a personal dislike to him?—Witness: Well, I suppose he has a personal dislike to me.

And you reciprocate the feeling?—No, not particularly.

Upon your oath you will swear that Wilson in a public street said he would wreck your house?—I do.

Continuing the cross-examination, Mr. Thomas elicited from witness that he heard these words in his front room. Both door and window were shut. Someone had tried to wreck his house.

MRS. NELSON,

wife of last witness, then proceeded to corroborate her husband's evidence. Her house was picketted by defendant all day. She had been in the hands of the doctor ever since and had been prematurely confined.

MORE EVIDENCE.

Andrew Thompson, boarding-master and outfitter, who had taken some of the Shields men into his house, gave evidence. His house was entered by some men and two of the imported hands taken away. He was told by someone in the crowd, "We'll give you blacklegs to-night." The name on witness's sign was taken down on a piece of paper. After the crowd got away he nailed up his shutters. When he went upstairs he found his wife lying in a fit. She was unconscious for three-quarters of an hour. She had not been well ever since, and was still keeping her bed.

Cross-examined: Now she was suffering from the effect of a cold. No doctor had attended her up to this last illness.

Charles Severin Anderson, boarding-house keeper, said the procession stopped opposite his house, and Wilson pointed at him with his stick. Being frightened, he (witness) went upstairs. One of the drawing-room windows being open, he could hear everything going on outside. He heard Wilson saying "That's where the blacklegs are who came last night; we'll mark this house, and we'll wreck it to-night." The crowd began hooting and holding up their hands. Witness crossed the road then to his house, and came to the door where his (witness's) wife was standing. There were some sailors and women standing at the door. He saw one of the sailors who were standing at his door carried across the street. He removed everything that was loose in the shop, and put them upstairs because he was afraid they would be smashed.

Harriet Anderson, wife of last witness, gave evidence similar.

Cross-examined: When Wilson and his men came witness stood with

A RED-HOT POKER,

and her husband had cayenne pepper to receive them.

Mr. Thomas: Is your husband prosecuting?—Witness: I think they are all prosecuting.

What, the boarding-masters?—I think so.

Mr. Thomas: Then this is a boarding-house masters' prosecution? That is what I wanted to know. Thank you.

Mr. Fulton: Inspector Heyward is bound over to prosecute.

Mr. Thomas: I venture to say you will not call Inspector Heyward to say he does prosecute.

The Recorder: It does not matter. All prosecutions are on behalf of the Crown. I dare say somebody is behind this, but that is not for me to consider.

Helen Bennett, niece of the last witness, gave corroborative evidence.

This concluded the case for the prosecution.

FOR THE DEFENCE.

Mr. Abel Thomas, in opening the case for the defence, said not a single policeman had been called who had been in the habit of going with the processions. The first and best witness that had been called was Foan, who rather contradicted the rest of the evidence. Foan was good enough to bring police-constable 109 into the business. But the prosecution did not call the police-constable, who could have said a great deal as to what took place. There was a reason for that which was obvious; his friend was not acting for the police in Cardiff, but for persons who wanted to convict if they possibly could, and whose object was not to get at the truth. And who were these persons who wanted to convict the defendant if they possibly could? Not a scrap of evidence had been given that was not

BOARDING-MASTERS' EVIDENCE

from beginning to end. He, of course, excluded Mr. McKenzie and Superintendent Tambllyn, because neither had given any evidence against the defendant; rather it was very good evidence indeed in his favour. A Cardiff jury knew what these boarding-houses and boarding-masters were, how the business was conducted, and what a merry time of it the seaman had when he got into their houses. Wilson had organised a place where 150 seamen were boarded and kept. Further, he was making offers which would take 500 or 600 seamen out of the boarding-masters' hands. The defendant was in a fair way to ruin every single one of the men who had been called to give evidence against him. There was no doubt about that. Step by step the evidence of every one of the witnesses would be contradicted over and over again. They must remember the position Wilson held. And then was he the kind of man—at 10.30 in the morning, in Bute-street, one of the busiest thoroughfares in the town, with the police and strangers passing, and with a large procession with him—to have shouted what was imputed to him? The story was

TOO INCREDIBLE.

A man in Wilson's position did not do such things. These people, having the bitterest feeling against the defendant, as it was only natural they should have, and being the joint prosecutors in the case, were the jury, he asked, going to believe their statements? With the exception of the boarding-masters' evidence, there was Mr. Foan—who, he was told, was a boarding-master. Foan's evidence Mr. Thomas went on to characterise as ridiculously untrue. It had been proved to be untrue by the man who had been called immediately after. With regard to Mr. Gill, he (Mr. Thomas) must say that he appeared to give his evidence like an honest man. Gill must have been prejudiced against the defendant. He himself said that he could not help it. His story was that the men were called out of his house. Foan said they were dragged out. One of these stories

WAS A LIE,

and who was it that went into the witness-box and deliberately uttered falsehoods? Mr. Thomas then went on to review further contradictions in the evidence, and to say that some of the men who came to Cardiff on Sunday, the 15th, were Union men, and the whole of the circumstances showed that they thought their clothes were in the houses they had entered. If the defendant had ordered them to do that only he could not be charged with any kind of offence, though the men would have no right to remain after the boarding-masters had ordered them out. But Wilson had nothing to do with that. Passing on, Mr. Thomas said policemen were with the processions every day, and one would have thought that in a town like Cardiff, if any riotous proceedings had taken place, the police would have stopped them at once. There was, he went on, no other way to describe the putting of words into another man's mouth who had never spoken them but

PERJURED WORDS,

deliberately given with the intention of injuring the person whom those who spoke them believed was going to ruin them. After remarking that he would have to call a large number of witnesses, he proceeded to say that the Recorder would tell the jury whether the indictment was one for riot or unlawful assembly.

The Recorder said he should tell the jury it was an indictment under which they could convict for riot or unlawful assembly if they thought the evidence warranted.

ON MONDAY,

Mrs. Nelson, recalled and cross-examined, stated that she did not have a violent fall on the Friday previous to Feb. 16. She had a miscarriage a month that day since, but the fall she

had took place a fortnight before that. Some time before that she had had a fall from a trap. The cause of her miscarriage was not the fall. On the day of the disturbance she told Mrs. Garvey she was frightened, and Mrs. Garvey came into the house. Witness did not help Mrs. Garvey with the washing within a quarter of an hour after she came in. Witness had not been lifting a heavy sewing machine.

By Mr. Fulton: With the exception of a bruise on her face she did not suffer any ill-effects from the fall.

Mr. Fulton then asked that all the witnesses for the defence should be ordered out of Court, which was accordingly done.

FOR THE DEFENCE,

William Tambllyn, A.B., said he took part in the processions from day to day. The police accompanied the processions on every occasion. Witness was in the procession on Feb. 16. It was perfectly orderly and quiet. Mr. Wilson did not speak to anybody at all, and he never left the road. There was nothing said about wrecking a house.

WILSON DID NOT

say "That is a scab-house. That is where the 'blacklegs' are that came last night. We will mark that house and wreck it to-night." He did not say to Anderson, "You and your house will get finished to-night." He did not say either that there would be bloodshed that night. Wilson did not cross the tram-lines at all in the direction of Anderson's. Witness did not see a man carried from Anderson's house. The procession was not less orderly than any other during the strike.

Cross-examined by Mr. Fulton: Wilson did not suggest there should be a tour of inspection made at the boarding-houses where these men had been lodged. Several of the Shields men went to one of the boarding-houses. A demand was being made by the men

FOR THEIR CLOTHES,

so that if they were refused police-court proceedings might be taken. The men who went into the boarding-house first were Shields men.

Annie Roberts, a

DOMESTIC SERVANT AT GILL'S

boarding-house, Sophia-street, said she was in the house on the morning of Feb. 16. When the procession got opposite the house they stopped, and several men came into the passage. Two of the men asked for their clothes, and they were told their clothes were not there. If they wanted to speak to the men who came the night before they were inside the room. The strikers spoke to the Shields men, but there was no threat used and no attempt was made to carry them out. Foan was not in the passage. Witness was there herself. Mr. Wilson never came near the house. He was in the road between the parlour window and the front door parading slowly with the men. She heard Mr. Wilson say "Right, halt," or something of that sort. He never said this was No. 3 scab-house, where the blacklegs were, and that they would wreck it that night. When the procession started again she saw Foan coming up the street.

By Mr. Fulton: Two or three of the men came out of the house and joined the strikers, and Mr. Wilson then took off his hat and called for three cheers, which were given by the processionists. Witness was not frightened, but her mistress and fellow-servant were. There was no hustling in the passage.

William Armstrong, an able-bodied seaman, corroborated the evidence of Tambllyn.

By Mr. Fulton: He did not remember Mr. Wilson making any speech on the morning of the procession. Wilson had gone round the corner when the men came out of Gill's house. Witness did not see him take off his hat and call for three cheers. He was present the same evening, when Mr. Wilson made a speech at the Colonial Hall. He did not remember Mr. Wilson making use of the words, "If they were going to use foul means to beat the men there would be such a bloody revolution that had never been seen in this country." He did not hear Mr. Wilson tell the men that it would not be Wilson, Burns, Mann, and Tillett, or the other leaders, who would be able to restrain the dogs of war once they broke loose.

By Mr. Thomas: Mr. Wilson tried in every way to conduct the strike

PROPERLY AND ORDERLY.

Thomas Edward Hatch, A.B., said the procession did not form in a circle in front of Gill's house. He heard Mr. Wilson ask for the men whose bags were at Anderson's house. The procession, however, did not stop, but the men who had come from Shields the previous night left the procession and went to look after their luggage.

By Mr. Fulton: He was not an officer of the Union. The medal he wore was his badge of membership, and he was not ashamed of it. He was not in the habit of calling non-Unionists either scabs or blacklegs. He did not think they were proper terms to apply to anybody. He had never heard Mr. Wilson refer to non-Unionists as either scabs or blacklegs. Mr. Wilson never took off his hat and called for three cheers when the men came out of Gill's house. The witness Bennett, when at the police-court on Feb. 20, asked witness if a reporter was Wilson. The reporter alluded to was Mr. Paternoster, who represented a London paper.

Herry Gould, a dock labourer, corroborated the evidence of the previous witnesses. Everything that Mr. Wilson did was in the direction of keeping the men orderly and quiet.

Frederick Moran, a seaman, of North Shields, said he came to Cardiff on Feb. 15, and when he arrived, joined the strikers waiting at the station. He did not know he was going to be shipped from Cardiff when he started. He was under the impression he

WAS GOING TO LONDON.

The following day he went with the procession, and he called at several boarding-houses to see if he could find his luggage. Wilson never made use of threatening language opposite Anderson's. There was no hooting or hissing. Since the 15th of February he found out that his luggage had gone to London.

By Mr. Fulton: He first got into the boarding-master's cart when he arrived in Cardiff, but he got out again. He knew some men had gone to Gill's, and thought perhaps his bag had gone there. The procession "slowed" down, but did not stop. Only three of them went to Gill's house.

Matthew Hart, a fireman, of North Shields, said he was engaged at North Shields to go to London, but he was brought to Cardiff. There were five boarding-masters' carts waiting at the station, and he got into one of them. He subsequently got out again, and went to the Union head-quarters. He was with the process on the following day. Witness then

CORROBORATED

the previous witness with regard to the demand for baggage at Gill's house. There was no hissing or hooting at all. Wilson was at the head of the procession the whole time, and he never stopped. Defendant never made use of any violent language against any of the boarding-masters or their houses.

John Burke, fireman, of North Shields, said he was also one of the men who came to Cardiff on the Sunday night, and he joined the procession the next morning. He went into Gill's house and asked for his bag. On being told it was not there he left. Wilson was at the head of the procession when he went into the house, and it had proceeded about 100 yards when he came out of the house. Witness was in the next rank but one to Mr. Wilson, and he could swear that defendant did not say anything about wrecking Gill's house.

Patrick Jennings, fireman, North Shields, gave similar evidence.

DR. COOPER

said he attended Mrs. Nelson about Mar. 9. The miscarriage could not have been caused by a fright three weeks before. He attributed it to natural causes. Mrs. Nelson had also had a miscarriage before.

Mrs. Martha Taylor, Maria-street, said the Monday previous to Mrs. Nelson's miscarriage she saw Mrs. Nelson standing at the door with a fur cape up to her face. On removing the cape witness saw that Mrs. Nelson's face was bruised. On the day in question witness was standing at her door when the procession passed. The men used to parade up the street every day, and they used to cheer as they went along. Sometimes the inhabitants cheered also, as witness had done several times. There was no hissing or hooting on the 16th. Mr. Wilson remained at the head of the procession the whole time. He never made use of violent language.

Mrs. Ellen Garvey, 37, Maria-street, said she saw the procession on Feb. 16. She could not say where Mr. Wilson was, as she was paying more attention to the band. (Laughter.) Mrs. Nelson was

DOING HER WORK AS USUAL

that day after the procession passed. The men always behaved very well, and did not hiss or hoot anybody.

William Colley, shoemaker, 18, Maria-street, gave evidence with regard to the orderliness of the procession on the day in question.

Mrs. Ellen Chiver, 230, Butte-road, gave similar testimony, saying her husband was a member of the Seamen's Union.

Mrs. Mary Brackenridge, 48, Sophia-street, gave

corroborative evidence. Mr. Wilson did not make use of the language attributed to him.

Mrs. Martha Fowler, 4, Sophia-street; Mrs. Mary Rich, 49, Christina-street; and Mrs. Louisa Ann Clibbert, 52, Christina-street, gave corroborative evidence.

Mr. George A. Reed, of the Strangers' Rest, Butte-road, said his house was about three doors from Anderson's. The defendant never crossed over from the procession to Anderson's house. He never heard of Thompson having to put up his shutters in consequence of the disturbance on Feb. 18.

Mr. Thomas said that was the case for the defence.

POLICE EVIDENCE.

Police-constable (109) Wootton was then called at the request of the jury. He said the men were going away from Gill's. The procession halted in front of Beer's. Wilson pointed to Beer's house with a stick, and five or six men went into the passage of the house. Witness followed and heard Beer tell the men to leave, and the men told him they had gone.

TO LOOK AFTER THEIR CLOTHES.

Beer said he had no clothes belonging to the men, and told witness they had come to get hold of his lodgers. Beer had hold of the handle of the door to keep his boarders in. Witness told the men to leave, and after a few seconds' hesitation they did so. He told them that if they did not leave he should shove them out, and Beer did push one or two of them. The men then went out and joined the procession. Wilson spoke to the men, but witness did not hear what he said. Defendant raised his stick and the crowd shouted. At that time Mr. Wilson was about the centre of the procession. He walked from one end to the other until the men moved on, and then he assumed his place at the head. The procession then marched into Maria-street, and defendant again spoke to the men when near Nelson's, but witness did not hear what he said. The stick was raised once more, and the crowd shouted. The crowd stopped outside Nelson's house for four or five minutes. The procession again halted in front of Anderson's house, and Wilson once more spoke to his men, but not in witness's hearing. He pointed his stick to Anderson's house, and three or four men went from the procession and pulled three or four of Anderson's boarders into the ranks. Defendant spoke again to the men, and raised his stick, the crowd once more shouting. About 40 yards lower down another halt was made, and on the raising of the stick, more yelling and shouting was indulged in. The procession then proceeded to Custom House-street. Witness considered the procession very disorderly, and everyone seemed very excited. If he had not been at Beer's house he believed there would have been a disturbance.

Cross-examined by Mr. Thomas: Witness was a little excited.

WILSON WHISPERED

into the men's ears when the halts were made. People sitting in rooms with their windows shut could not possibly have heard what Wilson said. He did not think defendant left the procession to go across to Anderson's house. Defendant went down the ranks several times and spoke to the men. He did not hear the evidence of the witness Reed entirely.

Mr. Thomas then called for the officer's notebook and read the entry contained therein. The last words of the report stated that Mr. Wilson was at the head of the procession, and he excited all the men.

Witness, continuing, said he saw Foan when he went to Beer's house.

Mr. Abel Thomas, in addressing the jury

FOR THE DEFENCE,

at the outset criticised the action of Mr. Forrest Fulton in asking for the defence witnesses to be out of court, while the prosecution witnesses had remained in court. Nevertheless, he submitted that his witnesses had come off better than even the witnesses of the prosecution, who had remained in court. These strikes had caused a great deal of excitement, ill-feeling, and a great deal of bad blood in this town. He asked them to decide upon the evidence which had been placed before them. Subsequently, when Mr. Thomas was referring to the

RESPECTABLE FOREIGNERS

and their wives who kept seamen's boarding houses, a laugh was raised, and the Recorder threatened to clear the Court if there was any demonstration of feeling of any kind. Mr. Thomas then proceeded to analyse the evidence. A case had been opened that Mr. Wilson was a wicked brute and that he was inciting the people in this procession to act in

an illegal and wicked way. He, however, should ask them to say that the defendant was not guilty at all. If ever there was a wicked case put forward it was this case. Foan had been proved to be a liar, Mr. and Mrs. Nelson had been

PROVED TO BE LIARS,

by the policeman, and Mr. and Mrs. Anderson had been proved to be liars by eighteen or twenty witnesses.

COUNSEL FOR THE PROSECUTION.

Mr. Forrest Fulton, in addressing the jury, said this was the first time that a charge had ever been made against him of conducting a prosecution in an infamous manner, and that his only object was to never mind justice at all so long as he could get a conviction for the boarding-masters. He had endeavoured to conduct that prosecution in a spirit of absolute impartiality, and without the slightest desire to obtain a verdict from them. His duty was not to obtain a verdict at all, but simply to place the evidence before them. He then proceeded to criticise the evidence.

The court then adjourned until Tuesday morning. On Tuesday morning the Recorder proceeded

TO SUM UP.

He said the defendant was charged with unlawful assembly, and he had better tell them what constituted an unlawful assembly. He would do it in the words of Mr. Justice Stephen, in his work on criminal law, who defined an unlawful assembly in these terms:—"It is an assembly of three or more persons with intent to carry out

ANY COMMON PURPOSE,

lawful or unlawful, in such a manner as to give firm and courageous persons in the neighbourhood of such assembly reasonable grounds to apprehend a breach of the peace in consequence of it." It appeared that previous to Feb. 16, and on Feb. 16, and some time after, there had been a strike going on in this town in which the Seamen's and Firemen's Union, of which the defendant at the bar was secretary, was taking part. The allegation on the part of the prosecution was that on Feb. 15 the employers had drafted into the town certain persons from the North of England to supply the places of those who were out on strike; and that the purpose of those who assembled was by going round to those various streets in which the boarding-houses were situated, in which the persons who had come to take the place of the strikers lodged, to induce the new arrivals by—alleged on the part of the prosecution—violent demonstrations to give up the purpose for which they came to Cardiff. Well, there was no doubt about one thing, that there was an assembly of persons, in which defendant with others, to a great deal more than the number of three, was taking part. It did not matter whether the assembly was for a lawful or an unlawful purpose if it was carried out in such a manner as to give firm and

COURAGEOUS PERSONS

in the neighbourhood of such assembly reasonable ground to apprehend a breach of the peace. Of course, they all knew that on occasions of this sort it was very difficult, where there was more or less excitement, for persons, however anxious they might be to give a correct account of what took place on such an occasion, to be very accurate about spoken words or minute details of the circumstances; but even bearing that in mind, he was afraid that everybody who had heard this case would have to come to the conclusion that there was on the part of some of the witnesses in this case

WILFUL AND DELIBERATE PERJURY,

because the accounts that had been given on the one side and on the other in reference to matters about which there could be no mistake were so conflicting that one must come to the conclusion that upon one side or the other there had been a wilful attempt to mislead them in the evidence that had been given. The Recorder then proceeded in detail to analyse the evidence. It was, he said, common ground that Wilson marched at the head of the procession. If that procession was not halted at Gill's house, and Wilson did not, as was said by the witnesses for the defence, say the words attributed to him by Foan, then Foan must have been telling the Court what was untrue, and untrue to his knowledge. The allegation made on behalf of the defendant in plain English—and there was no blinking the fact—was that these boarding-masters were determined

TO RUIN WILSON,

and they had conspired together to do it deliberately, to carry out their purpose by perjury and probably by suborning other persons. The

procession, on the one hand, was said to have been disorderly. On the other, it was represented as peaceable and orderly—more peaceable and orderly than one would have expected under any circumstance. As to the threats alleged to have been made use of by Wilson, it was surprising that, considering his natural anxiety for the success of the cause in which he was engaged, not to speak of his own safety, he should, in the presence of so many hostile to him, make use of such expressions as "We will wreck that house to-night." On the other hand, when a man was engaged in an enterprise of this sort, no matter how much he meant at first to be moderate and calm, and to keep well within the law, he was liable under the circumstances to lose his prudence and to be tempted to say things which in his calmer moments he would not say at all. Dealing with the evidence of Mrs. Nelson, he pointed out that the evidence of the

MEDICAL MAN CONTRADICTIONED

her suggestion or allegation that the fright caused a miscarriage. The doctor considered it was due to natural causes, and this was not the first time that she had had a similar experience. And it was urged she should not be believed as she said she was so frightened she could not go about her work; but a woman was called who said she went about her work in the ordinary way. They had a very difficult task to perform. Witnesses for the prosecution detailed the circumstances, and they had, on the other hand, persons who had certainly equal opportunity of seeing what took place, and they denied—a large number of them denied—with equal minuteness and equal detail, every material circumstance that had been alleged by the witnesses for the prosecution. They had to weigh the one story against the other story. Was the assembling there to carry out a common purpose, and did they carry out that purpose in such a manner as to give firm and courageous persons in the neighbourhood of their assembly reasonable ground to apprehend a breach of the peace?

The jury then retired.

THE VERDICT.

The jury, after an absence of half an hour, returned a verdict of guilty of unlawful assembly.

After the verdict of the jury was announced, Mr. Abel Thomas said he wished to inform his worship that Mrs. Wilson was suffering from a very dangerous illness, and was believed to be on the point of death. Mr. Wilson had six children.

The Recorder, in passing sentence, said it was fortunate for defendant he had not been found guilty of riot, and that he had only been convicted of unlawful assembly. The jury had found that he went to a large number of places and there terrorised the people for the purpose of inducing these men by threats not to work. Such a state of things could not be permitted. He was not going to pass a severe sentence, but he should pass such a sentence as would teach him and others in his position that in times of strike and when there were labour disputes he could not be allowed to carry out his objects, whether legitimate or otherwise, by force and against the law, and the sentence he would pass upon him was that he be imprisoned for six weeks without hard labour.

Mr. Wilson: I have one request to make, and that is that you give me hard labour.

Recorder: I have no power.

Mr. Wilson was then removed.

OPINIONS ON THE SENTENCE.

The sentence is generally condemned. At Cardiff a great Trade Unionist demonstration is being organised to welcome Mr. Wilson on his release, which it is expected will be about May 16, as the sentence dates from the commencement of the sessions on the 2nd inst. He had arranged to address the electors of Deptford on Wednesday night, but Mr. J. H. Jones, his Cardiff solicitor, after the sentence arranged to speak in his place, and Mr. John Gardner, Cardiff, took Mr. Wilson's place at a deputation to the President of the Board of Trade on Thursday in reference to the four years' service clause in the Merchant Shipping Act.

Mr. Broadhurst, M.P., has called at the offices of the Union to express sympathy with Mr. Wilson, and to say he will only be too glad to do anything in his power for him. He suggests petitioning the Home Secretary at once.

The *Daily Chronicle* says that the sentence shows more than ever the pressing necessity for a reform in the Law of Conspiracy, and the need for an authoritative and definite statement of the scope of that law.

At a meeting of the general council of the Social Democratic Federation in London on Tuesday night, the following resolution was passed:—

"That this meeting protests with indignation against the iniquitous sentence of six weeks' imprisonment passed upon J. H. Wilson, on the charge of riotously assembling to disturb the public peace, and calls upon all interested in the emancipation of labour to at once petition for his immediate release, and for a further amendment of the law of conspiracy."

A meeting was held at the Democratic Club, Chancery-lane, London, on Tuesday night, for the purpose of expressing sympathy with Mr. Wilson. The chair was taken by Mr. Shaw Maxwell. Mr. Tait (Scottish Railway Workers) proposed a resolution to the effect that the members of the club received with indignation the sentence passed on Mr. Wilson, and expressed continued confidence in him as a valued and courageous leader of the labour movement, and called upon the organised trades of London to demand his release. Mr. Tait thought that the Home Secretary could not afford to lightly dismiss such a demand. He felt confident that in a few weeks Mr. Wilson would be released. The resolution, which was carried, is to be sent to Mr. Wilson, to the secretary of the Trades Council, and to the Home Secretary.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* says:—The indignation at the sentence passed on Mr. J. H. Wilson on Tuesday in connection with the Cardiff strike is natural; but is it not wrongly directed? Whether or not Mr. Wilson really did and said the things attributed to him may well be doubted; and we should gather from the tenor of the Recorder's summing up that he had his doubts too. But, as the jury found Mr. Wilson guilty, what was the Recorder to do except sentence him accordingly?

The *South Wales Daily News* says the verdict and sentence have created general surprise, and even, in many quarters, considerable indignation. Whoever was responsible for it, we consider that the sentence was very severe, and that a much lighter one would equally well have upheld the majesty of the law, and punished the offence. The Recorder informed prisoner that it was fortunate for him that he was not found guilty of riot. No doubt, but it was still more fortunate that he was not found guilty of murder or inciting to murder. He was, it appears, only found guilty of "unlawful assembly." But one man could not commit any such crime, unless others committed it with him. The prisoner at the bar could not have assembled himself. Others must have been equally guilty, and if they were, it seems hard that the severity of the law should have come down upon one only. But to go back from the sentence to the verdict of the jury, we fancy that many persons will be puzzled to know what an "unlawful assembly" is. It is clearly time to have this most incomprehensible term clearly defined. In Ireland one may perpetrate this crime quite unknowingly, and it is just possible that the law may be set at defiance in this country by persons who at the time of breaking it have no idea in their minds but to keep on the side of legality and right. We fear that the penalty inflicted upon him will not carry with it that sort of general acquiescence which is often expressed in the term "served him right!" It is a pity that justice should ever fall with such astounding severity as to produce a recoil. When it does this it misses its mark by transforming its victim into a hero.

The *Star* says every Trade Unionist in the country will denounce as flagrantly unjust the sentence of six weeks' imprisonment passed upon Mr. Wilson. And every impartial observer of trade disputes will deplore a decision which will revive and embitter the all-but-forgotten feuds of the recent strikes in South Wales. Mr. Wilson was convicted of unlawful assembly—one of those technical offences which are generally associated—and with good reason—in the popular mind with

CLASS INJUSTICE.

In his summing up, the Recorder fortified himself with a definition of the "crime" from Justice Stephen, and having thus broadened the way for a conviction, went on to analyse the evidence. He admitted it was conflicting. Witnesses of equal credibility flatly contradicted each other on the main facts relied upon by the prosecution. The threats which Mr. Wilson was sworn to have uttered, open undisguised threats, such as, "We will wreck that house to-night," the Recorder allowed were

IMPROBABLE

to have come from a man in the defendant's position of responsibility. But the boarding-house masters' witnesses were positive. They resolutely stuck to their story that Mr. Wilson had acted at the head of the mob of men whose object was to intimidate other men who had been introduced into the town from going to work. The stipendiary magistrate—a brother, by-the-bye, of Sir W. T. Lewis, the leading employer in Cardiff—gave credence to the witnesses against Mr. Wilson,

and committed him for trial not only on the charge of unlawful assembly, but also on the more serious one of riot. But the graver allegations the jury rejected as incredible, and with not too much sympathy probably with men whose business, according to the *Tory Press*, is that of the disturbance of trade for their own profit, convicted Mr. Wilson on the minor count. Here was the opportunity for the display of a little legal discretion. A judge who was wise as well as upright would have consulted the interests of the public as well as the interests of justice, and after a little homily on the gravity of the offence, would have merely bound Mr. Wilson over. But the Recorder instead ended his homily by a sentence of six weeks' imprisonment—a sentence in which every working man in the country will, rightly or wrongly, trace the hand of a class judge administering a

CLASS-MADE LAW.

It is too much, perhaps, to expect the Home Secretary to release Mr. Wilson. Mr. Matthews is a lawyer, not a statesman. The only effect on the prisoner will be to enormously increase his influence and to strengthen the movement in which he is engaged, by arousing sympathies which were previously unmoved.

The seamen's opinion may be gathered from the resolutions passed at Hull, Peterhead, and other Branches of the Union reported on other pages of SEAFARING.

ALLEGED THREATS BY JURYMEN.

A public meeting was held at the Hatocham Liberal Club, Portland House, New Cross-road, last Wednesday evening, at which Mr. Wilson (secretary of the Seamen's and Firemen's Union) had arranged to deliver an address. The chairman (Dr. Pankhurst, Liberal candidate for Rotherhithe) said that the meeting had been called for the purpose of hearing a gentleman who was now serving the Liberal cause in another place. From that place he would come to this constituency more popular and more powerful than ever before. (Cheers.) Mr. Jones, the solicitor who acted for Mr. Wilson, gave an account of the origin of the strike, and said that the police had complimented Mr. Wilson upon the order he kept. It was rumoured that five of the jury that tried Mr. Wilson had said in the presence of other persons that if they got hold of Mr. Wilson they would give him

PENAL SERVITUDE.

(Sensation.) If that were so an inquiry should be held. He (the speaker) concluded by saying that if when Mr. Wilson came out of prison, he was accorded a reception by less than 20,000 people he should be very much surprised. If Deptford would not have him as its representative they would have him in Wales. (Cheers.) Mr. Hall moved a resolution expressing sympathy with Mr. Wilson. Mr. R. B. Haldane, Q.O., M.P., in supporting the resolution, said that in view of the statements of Mr. Jones, he was of opinion that the case was one urgently

CALLING FOR INQUIRY.

and he sincerely trusted such an inquiry would be made. Sir Edward Grey, M.P., followed. The resolution was agreed to, and the meeting closed with the customary vote of thanks.

QUESTIONS IN PARLIAMENT

are to be put on the subject, and it is expected that an influential deputation will wait upon the Home Secretary calling for Mr. Wilson's immediate release.

SERIOUS ASSAULT BY A BOATSWAIN.—In the Sheriff's Court, Dundee, on Saturday, Hon. Sheriff-substitute Littlejohn, on the Bench, Joseph Dorton, boatswain on board the ship *Columbia*, of Liverpool, lying in Dundee, was charged with having, on Jan. 19 last, while that vessel was on a voyage from Calcutta to Dundee, assaulted John Hopmaster, a German seaman, by striking him down. He pleaded guilty, but stated in extenuation that he had received provocation. It was explained that the complainant was aloft, when the accused challenged him to fight. Hopmaster declined, and Dorton assaulted him so severely that one of his eyes was closed for three days, and he was unable to work for eleven days. It was alleged that the accused brandished a knife, but the Fiscal said that the evidence was not sufficient to bear out this statement. The accused was then fined £2, with the option of two months' imprisonment. Dorton appeared in the Court with his head bandaged, he having fallen into the graving dock early on Saturday morning.

NATIONAL DOCKERS' UNION.

ITS PRESIDENT—MR. RICHARD
M'GHEE.

BY A CLERGYMAN WHO KNOWS
HIM.

Specially Written for SEAFARING.

Mr. Richard M'Ghee, president of the National Union of Dock Labourers in Great Britain and Ireland—whose portrait will be found on page 1 of this week's SEAFARING—is an illustration of the fact that it is not always the men whose names are most prominently before the public who are the real leaders of great movements. Among all the names mentioned in connection with the dockers' movement, Mr. M'Ghee—partly because he does not court applause—has not been so prominent in the papers as his services might lead his friends to expect, and it is time that we should all know what manner of man he is.

Richard M'Ghee is the fruit of Irish landlordism. He is the son of a tenant farmer who was not well treated by his landlord. Born in 1851, M'Ghee's boyhood was spent at Lurgan, but in his twentieth year proceeded to Glasgow, where he apprenticed himself to an engineer and duly served his seven years, at the end of which he became a commercial traveller. He associated himself with the temperance movement and became a favourite pupil of the eminent Dr. Lees. Always fond of reading, and possessing a singularly penetrating intelligence, and an unusually acute logical faculty, combined with a passionate love of truth and justice, young M'Ghee was just the youth to fall under the spell of such a true thinker and high moral reformer as Dr. Lees, and the attraction has proved strong and enduring. In 1879 the young Irishman's

ARDENT NATURE

was unable to resist the strong appeal of Michael Davitt, father of the Land League, and the result was that M'Ghee flung himself into that mighty upheaval with characteristic energy, and rapidly became a powerful factor in the movement, though always preferring to play his part rather in council than on the public platform. He was closely associated with John Ferguson, of Glasgow, and became, and still remains, the intimate friend of Mr. Michael Davitt. He was one of the founders of the Democratic Federation, and a member of the original executive of that body. He introduced the Federation to Glasgow, and organised many meetings, addressed by Mr. Hyndman, Mr. Henry George, Miss Helen Taylor, and others. He was one of the first members of the Land Reform Union Executive (since become the Land Restoration League), and was actively concerned in bringing Mr. Henry George to Great Britain in 1884, and was the principal organiser of Mr. George's most successful campaign.

The Scottish Land Restoration League was founded at this time, and its name was suggested by Mr. M'Ghee. Since 1884 Mr. M'Ghee has occupied himself mainly in spreading the light on the land question. Believing not so much in the platform as in the pamphlet, he has distributed, at his

own cost, millions of pamphlets and leaflets, containing the essence of

GEORGE'S DOCTRINE,

throughout the length and breadth of England and Scotland, as well as the North of Ireland. Perhaps his most successful effort in this way is that affecting mineral royalties, the result of the interest thus aroused being seen in the subsequent appointment of a Royal Commission on the whole question. His publications were anonymous, but his facts have been extensively used by the press, by Liberal and Radical candidates, and by many public men. The Scottish Crofter movement also owes much to him.

In 1885 Mr. M'Ghee persuaded the Land Restoration League of Scotland to run five candidates for seats in and near Glasgow to call attention to the land question, and Sir Charles Trevelyan has since declared that public opinion in Scotland was greatly awakened to the sound principles of land reform by that campaign. While convinced that Parliament is the proper machine to effect reforms, Mr. M'Ghee is nevertheless convinced that Parliament is useless until whipped into activity by an energetic, sober, and intelligent electorate.

Accordingly, it has been Mr. M'Ghee's great aim to educate and arouse the electorate. Early in the Land League movement he took a prominent part in the agitation in the North of Ireland, and in 1887 was actively interested in

THE LABOUR MOVEMENT

of the Black Country, particularly the movement for improving the condition of the nail and chain makers; and there is no doubt that the organisation of labour in this part of the country was largely encouraged by his efforts.

In the beginning of 1889 Mr. M'Ghee was waited upon by a deputation of

GLASGOW DOCK LABOURERS,

and invited to assist an effort which was being made to organise these workers. He accepted, and the movement began to grow steadily until it took firm hold in Glasgow. Encouraged by success Mr. M'Ghee and his friends set to work in Belfast, as well as in other Scottish and English ports. M'Ghee was the inspiration of the movement, and by the middle of the year the work of organisation had succeeded so far that the labourer who was not in the Union was the exception. And it was well that it was so, for in June the sailors and firemen of Glasgow were out on strike, and it was considered that the dockers could materially assist. Accordingly they came out to a man, and a most determined struggle ensued. Mr. M'Ghee, though in principle opposed to strikes, took an active part in this strike, and availed himself of the opportunity to enunciate the policy known as

"CA' CANNY."

The principle of this policy is that, as the employers give as little wages as possible for as much work as they can get, so the workers are entitled to give, on the same principle, as little work as possible for as much wages as they can get. When the men came out on strike they asked for an advance of wages of one penny per hour, and the employers offered a halfpenny. This was refused, the men preferring to go back on the old terms. They followed their leader's advice so faithfully, however, that

in a very few weeks the whole demand of the Union was conceded, and more was offered if only the men would work as they had been wont to do. Nothing succeeds like success, and so during the month of June

THE UNION SPREAD

to Liverpool and Birkenhead. In September a Congress was held at Glasgow, delegates being present from all the Branches. Mr. M'Ghee, who up to this time had acted merely as a friend to the movement, was now elected president, and in this official capacity he, in November, accompanied by Edwd. M'Hugh, the secretary of the Union, made a tour of the Liverpool docks. His pungent speeches had the usual effect. The Union grew in strength. The work of education and organisation went briskly on during the winter of 1889-90. In March of the latter year the great Liverpool strike began, and ended as the Glasgow one had done. Nothing was gained by the strike, but "Ca' Canny" was so successfully taught that in a very few weeks after the resumption of work the Union demand was again conceded. In July Mr. M'Ghee paid a visit to America, and took occasion to inquire into the character and conditions of the organisations of

AMERICAN DOCKERS.

He met with a very flattering reception everywhere he went. He addressed crowded meetings of dockers in every port, and acquired much valuable information. Shortly after his return the second Congress of the Union was held in Liverpool, and over eighty delegates were present from the principal ports of England, Ireland, and Scotland, Mr. M'Ghee being unanimously re-elected president. The Congress was remarkable by reason of the fact that the press was excluded. The dockers had suffered so much from the untruthfulness and hostility of the

CAPITALIST PRESS,

that Mr. M'Ghee, speaking in Belfast, declared that "the greatest enemy of the labour movement was the so-called free press," and from that time to this the press has not been encouraged to attend any dock labourers' gatherings. Since the Congress Mr. M'Ghee has continued his efforts in the direction of organisation. In November he made a tour of the Irish ports, and was accorded a most enthusiastic reception, and subsequently he has forwarded the movement in various ways. And it is due mainly to his untiring energy and ceaseless attention that the National Union of Dock Labourers is now one of the

LARGEST AND MOST PERFECTLY ORGANISED

Labour Unions in the country. It has Branches in almost every port in Ireland, Scotland, and on the Western Coast of England, and wherever it has gone it has raised wages and improved the conditions of life of the dock labourer, whose lot has wonderfully

CHANGED FOR THE BETTER,

and the improvement is mainly due to the self-sacrificing zeal of Mr. Richard M'Ghee. Mr. M'Ghee is well known to all the leaders of the social movement in England and America, including the leading Socialists, but he regards Socialism as the weakness of the present labour awakening and the trump card of the labour exploiter, and especially the landlords' trump card. He believes that the true solution of

THE LABOUR PROBLEM

is to take the rent of land for national purposes, and thus make it the national interest to put the land to its utmost use. Labour and land are the two essential elements in the production of wealth. Land is the storehouse of all wealth; remove all the obstacles which prevent labour from getting freely at the land and you solve the labour problem. Mr. M'Ghee's economic views are precisely those of his friend Mr. Henry George, and have since 1885 been in principle adopted by the Liberal party under the title of the taxation of ground rents and land values.

AS A SPEAKER

Mr. M'Ghee is a deep thinker and a most acute reasoner. He puts his argument with such pungency of expression that the audience is at once captivated and convinced. It is a curious testimony to his ability that a Glasgow professor, who once met him on a platform to discuss the land question, was obliged to get up and say that he could not answer Mr. M'Ghee, for that after listening to him the professor felt that he must reconsider the whole question. His power as a debater is very remarkable, and was conspicuously displayed in the Glasgow Parliamentary Debating Society.

Powerful as he is in speech, however, he is more powerful

AS AN ORGANISER,

because in that capacity the persuasiveness which is such a marked characteristic of his speaking, serves him well. He is alert and resourceful, and finely courageous. If he thought his men were wrong he would tell them so, and not only tell them but show them clearly the right course. And he possesses one other faculty essential in a good organiser—he is a ready judge of men. He knows who ought to fill this post and who ought to fill that. In the work of organising the Dock Labourers' Union he has had his full share of contumely. During the past year a person was convicted of libelling him and Mr. M'Hugh, the Dockers' secretary, both the judge and the defendant's counsel admitting Mr. M'Ghee was a man of character who had been cruelly wronged by his libeller. After the libeller was found guilty, Mr. M'Ghee showed great forgiveness by his counsel being instructed to say that they did not wish him to be punished, but merely desired to clear his character. There are few men now connected with the labour movement who have done more to advance the cause of labour than Mr. M'Ghee, and there can be no doubt that if he continues his service as vigorously in the future as in the past the working classes will be greatly in his debt.

AT HOME.

Mr. M'Ghee was married in 1880. He is happily encouraged and assisted in all his work by his wife, who is, if anything, more of a revolutionist than he himself is; at any rate, she is equal to any sacrifice in the cause of labour which the occasion demands.

It is right to observe here that in his domestic circle, and in the circle of his immediate personal friends, few men are more entirely beloved than Richard M'Ghee. He has a generous soul, and is a loving as well as a lovable man. Tender and affectionate, and profoundly sympathetic in his nature, he wins regard wherever he goes. As his

public life has been marked by a rigid integrity and straightforwardness, so his private life has been purely religious in the highest and best sense.

AS DOCKERS' PRESIDENT.

The office of president of the National Union of Dock Labourers is an unpaid one, and it is well for the shipowners that that is the case, for if Mr. M'Ghee were a paid officer, devoting the whole of his time to the work, it would be difficult to say where, with his fertility of resource and energy of character, the dock labourers' movement would end. It is due to Mr. M'Ghee that it should be added that in all the movements in which he has rendered service he has been a voluntary worker. Earning his living as the trusted representative of an eminent commercial house, and ever careful of the interest of his employer, he has devoted his spare time and much of his private means to the promotion of causes which he has deemed good, and his career is an illustration of what many more might do, according to their power, to help on the cause of the emancipation of labour.

SHIPS SPOKEN.

Assunta, barque, March 8, 34 N, 39 W.
Argonaut, ship, of Greenock, homeward bound, March 27, 49 N, 21 W.
Anna Camp, for Cardiff, March 30, 49 N, 24 W.
Arctic Stream, of Glasgow, Pisagua to Dunkirk 101 days, March 19, 48 N, 32 W.
Belle of Arvon, barque, of Liverpool, South Pacific to Falmouth 120 days, Mar. 23, 44 N, 25 W.
Brabant, barque, Savanna to Cork, Mar. 23, 43 N, 29 W.
Berean, March —, 44 N, 23 W.
Beechwood, ship, Liverpool to Callao 33 days, steering south, March 11, 11 N, 27 W.
Buckingham, ship, of Liverpool, Feb 16, 24 S, 30 W.
Blairhoyle, Middlesbrough to Buenos Ayres, April 2, 47 N, 8 W.
"Coris," of Salcombe, March 30, 36 N, 8 W.
County of Inverness, four-masted barque, of Glasgow, Spencer's Gulf to Falmouth, all well, Feb 28, 1 S, 26 W.
Circe, Pisagua to Dunkirk, Feb 15, 8 S, 23 W.
County of Clare, from Pisagua, steering ESE, Jan 14, 38 S, 87 W.
Cypromene, Feb. 17, 1 N, 22 W.
Cape Race, British barque, Iquique to Falmouth, March 2, 28 N, 45 W.
Centurion, ship, of Glasgow, Sydney to London, all well, April 1, 49 N, 13 W.
County of Haddington, Feb. 12, 28 S, 21 W.
Cloncaird, barque, San Francisco to London, April 3, off Portland.
Doris, of Salcombe, Mar 30, 36 N, 8 W.
Doxford, for Cork, Jan. 13 (before reported Jan. 20) 47 S, 44 W.
Dumbartonshire, barque, steering east, March 29, 44 N, 38 W.
Diana (of Glasgow), outward bound, Jan. 28, 31 S, 25 W.
Don Pedro, s, bound south, April 3, 42 N, 10 W.
Emerald, barque, Fredrikstad to Sydney, March 25, 43 N, 21 W.
Ennerdale, Pisagua to Falmouth, Mar 28, 50 N, 22 W.
Earl Granville, ship, Tacoma to Glasgow, Feb. 21, 26 S, — W.
Evelyn, of Liverpool, for Queenstown, Jan. 18, 48 S, 103 W.
Fritz Reuter (Norwegian), bound east, April 5, 50 N, 19 W.
Fred P. Litchfield, New York to Singapore, Mar 1, on the Line, 28 W.
Fascadale, four-masted barque, San Francisco to Cork 130 days, Mar. 30, 50 N, 16 W.
Glenorchy, for San Francisco, Feb. 6, 2 N, 22 W.
Guiding Star, for Fleetwood, March 31, 48 N, 30 W.
Gladiator, English barque, steering south, Mar. 16, 14 N, 26 W.
Garland, Iquique to Channel, Feb. 2, 27 S, 21 W.
Greystoke (? Greystoke Castle) of Liverpool, Chilli to Swansea, all well, Mar. 15, 42 N, 38 W.
Herat, ship, Rangoon to Calcutta, Mar 15, 35 miles NE Kistna Light

Hyppolite, English barque, steering east, Jan 7, 35 S, 29 W.
Halcione, barque, of Southampton, steering east March 19, 7 a.m., lat. 33 N, long. 34 W.
Hermes, Holm, Buenos Ayres to Falmouth, all well, Feb. 16, 20 N, 39 W.
Ingeborg, Belize to Goole, March 26, 47 N (not 27 N, as before reported), 31 W.
James Aiken, for Antwerp, Mar. 11, 18 N, 37 W.
Joseph H. Scammell, New York to Melbourne, Feb. 27, 1 S, 27 W.
John C. Munro, barque, Jan. 27, 56 S, 66 W.
Kilbrannan, of Glasgow, from Philadelphia, steering south, Feb. 16, 35 S, 26 W.
Kenyon, British barque, all well, March 22, 13 N, 26 W.
Lorna Doone, barque, bound south, April 4, 47 N, 7 W.
Linthgowshire, British ship, Tacoma to Queens-town, March 18, 37 N, 128 W.
Lady Penrhyn, barque, of Liverpool, Concepcion to Walney Island 18 days, Jan 27, 56 S, 67 W.
Lady Wolsley, barque, of Newport, Iquique to Falmouth, Feb. 2, 27 S, 24 W.
Limari, Monk, Iquique to Rotterdam, March 23, 46 N, 22 W.
Loudon Hill, Chittagong to Dundee, Mar. 20.
Mary L. Burrill, ship, steering east, March 28, 49 N, 21 W.
Martello, s, steering west, March 23, 49 N, 19 W.
"Minder," ship, Feb. 18, 1 S, 27 W.
Michael Hutchinson, Jan. 12, 57 S, 66 W.
Morecambe Bay, March 4, 18 N, 39 W.
Mobile Bay, from Chili, Mar. 6, 12 N, 33 W, all well.
Maelgwyn, of London, Iquique to Falmouth, March 9, 11 N, 36 W.
Nelson, steering south, Feb. 23, 2 N, 25 W.
Nimbus, New York to London, Mar 20, 40 N, 53 W.
New York, English full-rigged ship, steering south, Mar. 11, 4 S, 30 W.
Nantes, Pointe-a-Pitre, for Nantes, Mar. 24, 39 N, 60 W.
Nebula, s, steering SSW, March 30, 20 24 N, 17 W.
Oakworth, ship, of Liverpool, Pisagua to Falmouth, all well, Feb 20, 20 S, 23 W.
Pampera, Coquimbo to Swansea 52 days, Feb. 7, 24 S, 24 W.
Phonix, Pisagua to Hamburg, Jan. 14, 57 S, 67 W.
Pennland, s, steering west, March 31, 50 N, 16 W.
Queen of the Bay, British barque, Dec. 2, 4 N, 17 W, April 1, 48 N, 26 W.
Rollo, of Melbourne, Iquique to Falmouth, Jan. 31, off Cape Horn.
Rohilla, s, April 5, outward-bound.
Stadacona, Brunswick to Rio Janeiro, Mar 3, 2 N, 24 W.
Susanne, for London, March 31, 50 N, 19 W.
Superb, ship, Pisagua to Falmouth, Feb. 22, 10 N, 34 W.
St. David, ship, Philadelphia to Higo, all well, Jan. 26, 44 S, 155 E.
Signal, Norwegian barque, Pisagua to Falmouth, Jan. 12, 48 S, 47 W.
Silver Sea, of Newfoundland, steering south, Mar. 1, on the Line, 28 W.
Thurland Castle, March 29, 47 N, 18 W.
Trowbridge, Pisagua, to Harburg 86 days, March 3, 18 N, 29 W.
Veendam, s, bound west, April 2, 47 N, 33 W.
Westward Ho, Pisagua to Falmouth, Feb. 2, 27 S, 20 W.
Willowbank, bound west, March 11, about 50 miles off Scilly, all well, by the Nordcap, which sunk after collision, March 13.
Wairoa, ship, of London, outward-bound, April 1, 49 N, 9 W.
W. D. Flint (? Wallace B. Flint barque), steering south, all well, Feb. 16, on the Line, 25 W.
Zimi, British barque, Cardiff to St. Paul de Loanda, Feb. 24, 36 S, 8 E.

PRESENTATION TO CHIEF OFFICER.—A presentation has been made on board the Allan Line steamer *Polynesian*, to Mr. J. A. Fairfull, the chief officer, consisting of a gold medal and a diploma given by the French Government for the rescue of the crew of the French brig *Nathilde*, in January, 1890.

ILLEGAL DECK CARGO.—At Newcastle Police Court, April 2, Marx Krutzfeldt, captain of the steamer *Uhlenhorst*, was charged with carrying on deck heavy wood goods, between Liban and Hull. A lawyer pleaded guilty on behalf of his client, but said the mistake had occurred by misunderstanding the laws. His client was absolutely innocent of any intention to break the law of England. But the mistake he had made was in not classifying ash under Section A, and in not understanding the difference between light and heavy woods. The Bench decided to inflict a penalty of £10, and costs.

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SAMUEL PLIMSOLL, Esq.

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- To provide for the safety of Ship's Work;
- To provide a good Class of Men, who shall be on board at the appointed time, and in a sober condition, ready for work;
- To provide assistance in case of Illness, Accident, and Shipwreck; and
- To provide Legal Assistance for all Claims and Defences.

Full particulars may be had of any of the Secretaries, whose names and addresses are:—

- AARHUS.**—A. Nielsen, Agent, Office, 21, Nørregade.
- ABERDEEN.**—Jas. C. Thompson, 49, Marischal-street, secretary; J. S. Watt, Esq., advocate, 7, King street, law agent. Meeting, in the Offices, 49, Marischal-street—contributions, 7 p.m.; business, 8 p.m., every Monday evening.
- AMBLE.**—G. H. Guthrie, 27, Broomhall-street, via Acklington.
- AMSTERDAM.**—H. Wienhuizen, Waterloo, Plain, secretary.
- ANTWERP.**—
- ARBROATH.**—J. Wood, 17, Ferry-street, Montrose.
- ARDBROSAN.**—W. Galbraith, 59, Glasgow-street.
- ARKLOW.**—P. Bolger, Main-street.
- BARROW-IN-FURNESS.**—E. Clayton, 21, Hindpool-road. Meeting, Monday evening, 7 p.m., at office.
- BARRY DOCK.**—J. Harrison, Kingsland-crescent, Barry Dock, secretary; J. H. Jones, Esq., St. Mary-st., Cardiff, solicitor; Dr. Gore, medical officer, Barry-rd., near Mitchell Hotel, Cadroxton; H. J. Morris, 7, Station-road, Barry Dock, delegate. Meeting, Thursday evening, 7.30, at the Barry Hotel, near Barry Railway Station.
- BELFAST.**—R. Price, 41, Queen-square.
- BIRKENHEAD.**—D. J. Kenny, 12, Taylor-st., sec.; J. Kerr outside delegate; W. A. Tetlow, Esq., solicitor. Meeting, every Wednesday at 7.30.
- BLITH.**—James Heatley, 9, Market-street. Meeting, Tuesday evening, 7 o'clock, at Mr. Thompson's Cocoa Rooms, Waterloo, Blith.
- BO'NES.**—John O. Neil, Pierhead. Office hours, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- BOSTON.**—Mr. Symonds, Castle Tavern Church-street, agent; W. Bennett, 14, South-street, King's Lynn, secretary.
- BREMERHAVEN.**—F. Fintchens, Buergermeister, Sinit Strasse, secretary.
- BRISTOL.**—T. J. Dancy, 41, Prince-street, Queen's-square, sec.; Dr. Walker, 115, New Cut, medical officer; Captain Langdon, 69, Queen-square, treasurer; C. Jarman, delegate. Meetings every Monday, 7.30, at The Ship, Redcliff Hill.
- BURNTISLAND.**—Jas. Moody, 12, Somerville-st., sec.; Alexander Mackintosh, Esq., 41, High-st., law agent. Meeting, Monday at 7 p.m.
- CARDIFF.**—John Gardner, Sailors' Union Institute, West Bute-street, secretary Dr. De Vere Hunt, Westbourne-crescent, medical officer; J. H. Jones, Esq., St. Mary-st., solicitor. Dr. Hunt attends at above Institute daily at noon.
- COPENHAGEN.**—Branch office, Ostergade 32 Thalia. Meeting, Wednesday, 7 p.m.
- CORK.**—Michael Austin, 6, Patrick-street.
- DOVER.**—Albert Martin, 13, Commercial Quay, Charlton, sec. Meeting, 13, Commercial Quay.
- DROGHEDA.**—Thos. McKevitt, Quay-st., Dundalk, sec. Agent in Drogheda, T. Fitzgerald, 6, North Quay, Drogheda. Meeting, Friday, 7.30 p.m.
- DUBLIN.**—M. Bolger, 50, Seville-place, sec. Meeting, Friday, 7.30 p.m. Gerald Byrne, Esq., 29, Lower Ormond Quay, solicitor.
- DUMBARTON.**—J. McNee, Kirk-street, agent.
- DUNDALK.**—Thos. McKevitt, Quay-street, secretary. Meeting, Tuesday and Thursday.
- DUNDEE.**—C. W. Millar, Mariners' Hall, 48, Candle-lane, sec.; Messrs. Cowan & Duxbar, 3, Reform-st., Dundee, solicitors. Meeting, Monday, 7.30.
- DUNGARVAN.**—P. Power, 5, St. Mary-street.
- FLEETWOOD.**—J. Davidson, S. & F. Union, corner of Dock and Albert-streets, sec.; F. Addie, Esq., solicitor. Meeting, Wednesday, 7 p.m.

- GLASGOW.**—J. D. Boyd, 13, James Watt-street, secretary; R. A. Rennie, Esq., 146, West Regent-street, law agent. Meeting, Thursday 7.30, at 102, Maxwell-street. Telephone 3184.
- GOOLE.**—W. R. Chappell, 24, Booth Ferry-rd., Goole, sec.; R. W. E. Whitehead, Esq., Bowalley-lane, Hull, solicitor. Meetings, Tues. and Fri., 7.30.
- GOTHENBURG.**—C. S. Neilson, secretary, No. 31, Stigbergsgatan. Office hours, 9 to 1 and 2 to 6. Meeting every Wednesday evening at 8, in Bergsgatan 24.
- GRANGEMOUTH.**—Edwin Cowie, 6, South Charlotte-st., sec. (Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.) Wm. M. Anderson, Esq., Grange-st., solicitor. Meeting, Monday, 7 p.m.
- GRAVESEND.**—John Degnin, secretary, Plimsoll House, The Terrace, Gravesend. Meetings, Monday, 7.30 p.m., at same address.
- GRAYS.**—Wm. Wall 18, Charles-street. Meeting every Tuesday 7 p.m., at the Queen's Hotel, High-street. Mr. James Longman, president.
- GREAT GRIMSBY.**—Wm. Young, Unity House, 1, Kent-st., secretary; Geo. Ide, outside delegate; R. W. E. Whitehead, Esq., Bowalley-lane, Hull, solicitor. Meetings, Monday and Friday, at 7 p.m.
- GREAT YARMOUTH.**—Charles Albrough, Pier Plain, Gorleston. Meetings at 7, Friars-lane, every alternate Monday evening, and at 121, High-st., Gorleston, every alternate Monday.
- GREENOCK.**—G. McNaught, 16, East India Breast.
- HAMBURG.**—H. Gehr, Hafenstrasse 79, secretary; C. Stoemer, outside delegate.
- HARWICH.**—George Stewart, sec., Ship Inn, King's Quay-st. Meeting, Friday, 7 p.m.
- HULL.**—J. Hill, Unity Hall, and 11, Posterngate, sec.; T. Carr and A. Clark, outside delegates; R. W. E. Whitehead, Esq., Bowalley-lane, solicitor; Rev. W. R. Welch, hon. chaplain. Meeting nights, Tuesday and Friday, at 7.30, in Unity Hall. Office, 11, Posterngate. Fishermen's Section, 65, West Dock-avenue; J. Lee, secretary. Meeting, Monday, 2.30 p.m.
- KING'S LYNN.**—Wm. Bennett, Seamen's Union Offices, St. Ann-street, secretary. Meeting Monday evening, 8 p.m., at Royal Standard, County Court-road.
- LEITH.**—Robert Smith, Seamen's Union Offices, 15, Commercial-street (opposite Shipping Office), secretary; W. J. Haig Scott, Esq., S.S.O., Constitution-street, Leith, solicitor; Gilbert Archer, Esq., J.P., treasurer; Mr. James Brown, outside delegate. Meeting Tuesday, at 7.30 p.m., Lifeboat Hall, Blackburn-buildings, Tolbooth Wynd, Leith. Telephone No. 355.
- LIMERICK.**—F. Reynolds, agent, 24, Windmill-st.
- LIVERPOOL (Branch No. 1).**—H. R. Taunton, Malakoff Hall, Cleveland-square, sec.; George Garrett and W. H. Noble, outside delegates; W. Atcherley Tetlow, Esq., 8, Westminster-chambers, Liverpool, solicitor. Meeting, Monday evening, 7.30, in Malakoff Hall.
- LIVERPOOL.**—(Branch No. 2).—T. Connarty, 133, Derby-rd., Bootle, sec.; W. A. Tetlow, Esq., 8, Westminster-chambers, Liverpool, solicitor.
- LIVERPOOL (Branch No. 3).**—J. Conway, 19, Stanhope-street, South Docks.
- LIVERPOOL (Branch No. 4).**—P. Marmion, secretary, 12, Boundary-street, North End, close to Shipping Office. Meeting, Wednesday, 7.30.
- LIVERPOOL (Tug and Ferryboat Branch).**—Meeting Malakoff Hall, Cleveland-sq., Wednesday evening, 6.30. Delegate, J. Roscoe.
- LONDON (Rotherhithe and Deptford Branch).**—C. Wykes, 2, Chichester Villas, Lower-road, Deptford, secretary. Meeting, Monday, 7.30 p.m., at Chichester Tavern. R. Mathews, outside delegate. T. Watson Brown, Esq., B.A., LL.B., 20, East India-road, solicitor.
- LONDON (Tidal Basin).**—F. Fowler, opposite Shipping Office, Tidal Basin, E. Meeting, Friday evening, 8 o'clock. Dr. Moir, 168, Victoria Dock-road, medical officer. Telephone No. 5214. T. Watson Brown, Esq., B.A., LL.B., 20, East India-road, solicitor.
- LONDON (Tower Hill).**—J. Wildgoose, secretary, 17, King-st. (over Lockhart's Cocoa Rooms). Meeting, Thursday evening, in the office, at 8. T. Watson Brown, Esq., B.A., LL.B., 20, East India-road, solicitor. Telephone, 11, 167.
- LONDON (Green's Home Branch).**—A. Mercer, 5, Jeremiah-street, East India-road, E., secretary; Dr. Hope, medical officer; T. Watson Brown, Esq., B.A., LL.B., 20, East India-road, solicitor. Meeting, Thursday evening, 8 p.m., at Wade's Arms, Poplar. Telephone No. 5213.
- LONDON (Tug-Boat Branch).**—G. Donaldson, 10, Cold Harbour, Blackwall, secretary. Office hours, 9 a.m. till 4 p.m., and 7 p.m. till 9 p.m.
- LONDONDERY.**—A. O'Hea, 27, William-street.
- LOWESTOFT.**—J. Linder, assistant sec., 4, St. George's-terrace, Lorne Park-road, South Lowestoft.
- MALMO.**—Axel Danielson, Nørregation No. 3b.

- MARYPORT.**—J. Smith Elliott-yard, Senhouse-street, secretary. Meeting Monday, 7 p.m.
- METHIL.**—Wm. Walker, Commercial-street.
- MIDDLESBRO.**—George Cathey, Robinson's Market Hotel, Market-place, secretary; Dr. Ellerton, 38, Gosford-street, medical officer; J. J. Bentham, Esq., 68, John-st., Sunderland, solicitor; William Jackson, outside delegate. Meeting, Monday, 7 p.m., at Market Hotel; committee, Thursday, at 7 p.m. Telephone No. 5127.
- MONTROSE.**—John Wood, 17, Ferry-street. Meeting, Monday evening, 7.30, at office.
- NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.**—John Mansell, 5, Broad Chare, Quay-side; H. W. Newton, Esq., 2, Elliason-place, medical officer; R. Jacks, Esq., King-street, South Shields, solicitor; Meetings, Mondays and Fridays, at Lockhart's Cocoa Rooms, Side, 7 p.m.
- NEWPORT (Mon.).**—F. Gilman, 31, Ruperra-street, secretary; Dr. Pratt, Ruperra-street, medical officer; Digby Powell, Esq., Dock-street, solicitor; Mr. G. Campbell, outside delegate. Meeting, Thursday evening, 7.30, at Tradesmen's Hall, Hill-street.
- NEWRY.**—D. Lennon, agent, Dublin-road. T. McKevitt, Quay-street, Dundalk, secretary. Meeting, Wednesday, 2 p.m.
- PETERHEAD.**—A. J. Guthrie, 66, Queen-street, sec. Office hours, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesdays 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays urgent business only. Meeting, 50, Broad-st., first Tuesday in month at 8.
- PENARTH.**—J. Harrison, Kingsland-crescent, Barry Dock, secretary; J. Beattie, 26, Olive-crescent, Cogan, Penarth, delegate; J. H. Jones, Esq., St. Mary-street, Cardiff, solicitor; Dr. De Vere Hunt, medical officer, attends daily at the Union Offices, Cardiff, at noon, for Penarth members. Meeting, Thursday, 7.30 p.m., at Barry Hotel, Barry, opposite Barry Railway Station.
- PLYMOUTH.**—D. J. Evans, N. S. & F. U. Office, Forester's Hall, Notte-st., sec. F. Cecil Lane, Esq., 1, George-st., Plymouth, solicitor. Meetings, Tuesday evening, 7 p.m., at the office.
- PORT GLASGOW.**—G. McNaught, 16, East India Breast, Greenock.
- PORTSMOUTH.**—W. Thorburn, 38, St. John's-road, Threatham.
- ROTTERDAM (Holland).**—J. R. de Vries, secretary Office, Wester Kade, No. 2, near Sailors' Home and Shipping Office.
- RUNCORN.**—T. H. Thompson, Waterloo Hotel, Top Locks, agent.
- SCANDINAVIAN DEPARTMENT.**—Victor Backs, sec. Office, 10, Classensgade, Copenhagen.
- SEAHAM HARBOUR.**—Richard Raine, Duke of Wellington Hotel, Railway-street, South.
- SHIELDS (South).**—D. Clement, Seamen's National Union Hall, Coronation-st., sec.; M. Logan, assistant sec.; Dr. Robson, medical officer, 1, Regent-st.; solicitor, R. Jacks, Esq., 73, King-st. Meeting, Monday at 7 p.m.; committee Friday, at 7 p.m. Sub-Branch—J. Longin, river secretary Redhead's-buildings, Corstorphine Town, near Tyne Docks entrance. Office hours, 9 till 4.
- SHIELDS (North).**—George Cowie, 8, New Quay, secretary; Dr. Robson, medical officer; R. Jacks Esq., solicitor. Meeting, Monday, 6.30 p.m.
- SOUTHAMPTON.**—T. Chivers, Old Skating Rink, Bell-st., secretary; Lieut. Tankerville Chamberlayne R.N.R., Weston-grove, president. Meeting Tuesday evening, 8 p.m.
- STOCKTON-ON-TEES.**—E. Page, sec.; John Hodgson, Palatine Hotel, treasurer. Meeting, Monday evening, at 7 p.m., in the Palatine Hotel.
- SUNDERLAND.**—W. Lonsdale, sec., Prospect-row, near Shipping Office. J. Henderson, outside delegate. Meeting, Monday, 7 p.m. Dr. Wood, 32, Frederick-street, and Dr. Burns Holy-terrace, medical officers; J. J. Bentham, Esq., 68, John-street, solicitor. Telephone, 443.
- SWANSEA.**—R. Thomas, Colosseum Hotel, Wind-st.
- WALLSEND.**—Septimus Johnson, 17, Third-street, Palmer's Buildings.
- WATERFORD.**—J. Ayton, 82, Quay.
- WEST HARTLEPOOL.**—J. Leahy, Russell's Buildings. Meeting, Friday, at 7 p.m., at office.
- WEXFORD.**—P. O. Dwyer, Main-street.
- WICKLOW.**—Thomas Gregory, Main-street.
- WHITBY.**—Paul Stamp, agent, Fleece Inn.
- WHITSTABLE.**—J. Donovan, Harbour-street, secretary; J. Tooke, Faversham, agent.
- WHITEHAVEN.**—John Smith, Maryport.
- WORKINGTON.**—John Smith, Maryport.
- YOUGHAL.**—J. Collins, Braun-street.

NORTH OF ENGLAND SAILORS' & FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION.

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By Order, J. B. BUTCHER, Secretary.

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SAILORS' AND FIREMEN'S UNION NOTICES.

LEVIES.

TO BRANCH SECRETARIES.

The following Branches have unanimously resolved to make a levy of 10s. upon each member for a special fund for strike purposes, whereby each member who so contributes will be entitled to 8s. per week in addition to the strike pay sanctioned by the rules. Branch secretaries are therefore requested to at once collect the levy from all members of Branches which have passed the resolution in favour of the same:—

Aberdeen

Arbroath

Barry

Birkenhead

Blyth

Bootle

Bristol

Cardiff

Deptford & Rotherhithe

Drogheda

Dublin

Dundalk

Dundee

Goole

Grangemouth

Green's Home

Grimsby

Hull

King's Lynn

Liverpool

London, all Branches

Londonderry

Middlesbrough

Montrose

Newcastle-on-Tyne

Newport

Newry

Peterhead

Plymouth

Seaham Harbour

Shields (North)

Shields (South)

Stockton

Sunderland

Swansea

Tidal Basin

Tower Hill

West Hartlepool

Whitby

Levies from non-local members should be specially marked on the non-local receipts, and remitted each week with non-local moneys. Levies collected from local members should also be remitted to Head Office each week, and entered on the income and expenditure sides of weekly returns.

Any Branch which may not already have decided upon the levy, can do so by passing a resolution in favour of the same, and forwarding it to me, whereupon the names of such Branches will be inserted in the above list.—By Order, J. H. WILSON, General Secretary.

All the London Branches have unanimously adopted the Levy, also the 6d. per week contribution.

DUNDEE BRANCH.

Subscription Sale in aid of the Banner Fund of the above Union. Over 50 Prizes. Tickets 3d. each, to be had from all Branch Secretaries. Drawing to take place on Saturday, June 27, 1891, in Mariners' Hall, Candle-lane. The Winning numbers will be advertised in SEAFARING, also in local papers, the following week.—C. W. MILLAR, Secretary.

ROTHERHITHE BRANCH.

Members of the Deptford Branch are requested to pay up their entrance fees and contributions at once, also the 10s. levy. Any member not complying with this notice will be fined accordingly.—C. WYKES, Secretary.

PENARTH AND BARRY BRANCH.

The offices of above Branch was removed from Sydenham-street to Kingsland-crescent on April 4, 1891. All communications must now be addressed, "Seamen's Union, Kingsland-crescent, Barry Dock."—J. HARRISON, Secretary.

UNION MEN PLEASE HELP THE DUNDALK, DROGHEDA, AND NEWRY BANNER FUND.

In aid of a Fund to provide a Banner for these Branches, on Monday, April 13, the following prizes will be drawn for:—1st prize, Silk Worked Picture (by a member), worth £4; 2nd prize, Silver Medal (enamelled); 3rd prize, Silver Medal (plain). Tickets, 6d. each, may be had from the Secretary, Mr. McKeivitt, or at SEAFARING Office. The winning numbers will be advertised in SEAFARING after the draw, and winners can, if they choose, have the value of the prize they win in money.—THOS. McKEIVITT, Secretary.

NOTICES.

"SEAFARING."

Published every Saturday, price One Penny, will be sent to any part of the United Kingdom, post free, at the following rates of subscription:—

Twelve Months 6s. 6d.

Six Months 3s. 3d.

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SEAFARING will be sent at the same rate, post free, to any of the countries comprised in the Postal Union. All subscriptions must be paid in advance

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Correspondents must write on one side of the paper only anything meant for publication, and address, not to 36-40, Whitefriars-street, but to 150, Minories, London, E. All communications should be addressed to ARCHIBALD COWIE, SEAFARING Office, 150, Minories, London, E., to whom all remittances must be made payable. (Post Office Orders at Minories, London, E.) The Editor declines all responsibility for rejected manuscripts, although when stamps are enclosed he will endeavour to return such matter as he may be unable to use.

Seafaring.

SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 1891.

ANOTHER UNION VICTORY.

The Recorder of Cardiff, in summing-up last Tuesday on the charge of unlawful assembly against Mr. J. H. Wilson, said: "It appeared to him that everybody who had heard that case must come to the conclusion that there was on the part of some witnesses in the case deliberate and wilful perjury; because the accounts which had been given on the one side and on the other about matters upon which there could be no mistake were so conflicting that on the one side or the other there had been a wilful attempt to mislead the jury in the evidence." The learned gentleman also observed: "They had a number of witnesses on behalf of the prosecution who had given, with circumstance and detail, a narrative of what took place. On the other hand, they had a large number of persons who had certainly equal opportunities of seeing what took place, and a large number of them denied with equal minuteness and equal detail every material circumstance alleged on behalf of the prosecution. The jury would have to weigh the one against the other story."

Now who were the jury to whom this grave responsibility was left? Simply a capitalist jury composed of Cardiff shopkeepers, who, however desirous to be impartial, would have been something more than human had they been devoid of the capitalist prejudice which the shopkeeper usually has against noisy crowds which may affect his trade. It would have been scandalous enough to try a Labour leader on a charge arising out of a strike by a capitalist jury, even by one brought from a distance and exempt from local prejudice, but to try a Labour leader by a capitalist jury on a charge arising out of a strike, and select that jury from capitalists who were on the scene of the strike, and probably suffered by it, is one of those grotesque burlesques of justice which tend to bring the existing system of trial into ridicule and contempt. The jury, it may be said, were selected in the ordinary haphazard way, and not packed, but the ordinary way must be a very bad way to admit of a Labour leader being tried, not by his peers, but by

capitalists. The rumour that five of the jury had expressed the intention of giving Mr. Wilson penal servitude, should, of course, be investigated, but even allowing it to be false, the fact will still remain that the jury was a jury of local capitalists who had probably suffered by the strike, so without imputing intentional injustice to the jurymen, the case must be regretted as a gross miscarriage of justice. The Recorder clearly had considerable doubt about the evidence, which was so conflicting that, to say the least, it might well be doubted by unprejudiced people. Now a man on trial is entitled to the benefit of the doubt. In Mr. Wilson's case, however, the benefit of the doubt was given by the jury, not to him, but to the prosecution, which surely shows that the jury were so blinded by class prejudice as to be incompetent to deal with the case. Had the charge been one of felony the jury could, and probably would, have been challenged, but the charge being only one of misdemeanour the jury could not be challenged. That is another injustice which ought to be remedied, as well as the absurd state of the law as to "unlawful assembly." To all these anomalies Mr. Wilson's case will serve to call attention, and as it will help the cause of reform which the Union has at heart, the upshot of it all is a great victory for the Union.

NAUTICAL NEWS.

CAPTAIN HAINS, who commands the Cunard steamer *Etruria*, has just sailed on his 501st trip across the Atlantic.

At Hull Police Court, William Jarvis Clifford, formerly an outside delegate of the Dockers' Union, has been sentenced to two months' imprisonment for embezzling the Union funds.

A PROPOSAL emanates from influential circles in Rome that a subscription shall be raised for a bronze wreath in memory of the British sailors who lost their lives in attempting to save passengers of the *Utopia*.

A MAN, believed to be a dock labourer, has dropped dead on board the steamer *Nora Creena*, in the Mersey, from Drogheda. He had in his possession a button of the Dock Labourers' Union, bearing the number 279.

At the inquest into the cause of the death of John Wainwright, who was found dead in the forecastle of the schooner *Moonlight*, a verdict was returned that deceased was suffocated by coal gas, and attaching no blame to anyone.

The Gem Line have received a telegram intimating the death at sea of Captain Oswald, of the steamer *Diamond*, on a voyage from Libau to Ghent. The message was rather ambiguous, but it was supposed that Captain Oswald had fallen overboard and been drowned.

AMERICAN ship *Patrician*, at Queenstown from Portland (Oregon), reports that March 10 a seaman named Joseph Holton, a native of Liverpool, accidentally fell from the foretop sail yard into the sea and was drowned. No effort could be made to save him, as it was blowing a south-east gale at the time.

THE Cunard steamer *Aurania*, at Queenstown from New York, was detained for twenty-four hours over her usual time by the disarrangement of her machinery. On April 3 she shipped a heavy sea, and a young man named David Gibson, of Dundee, endeavouring to avoid it, fell into the sea and was drowned. A boat could not be launched owing to the heavy sea.

REPORT dated April 6 says:—Steamers arriving at Greenock from across Channel report that they have experienced the most severe gale felt this season, and that a wild sea is running off the Scotch and Irish coasts. The mail steamer *Islay*, due at Greenock on Friday at midnight, only arrived yesterday, being unable to get into port. The gale is causing a fearful sea in Islay Sound. The steamer *Lochiel*, which left Oban for Greenock on Friday morning and was due the same night, only arrived yesterday morning. After leaving Oban she was driven back from the Mull of Cantyre twice and lay to for several hours. The sea broke over her heavily.

INCOMPETENT SEAMEN. DEPUTATION TO THE BOARD OF TRADE.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, President of the Board of Trade, on Thursday, April 9, received a deputation from the Seamen's and Firemen's Union, and the North of England and Hull Seamen's Societies, who attended to lay before the right hon. gentleman questions affecting seamen.

The Union was represented by Messrs. King and Price, Trustees; Mr. J. R. England, general treasurer; Mr. Gardner, district secretary, Bristol Channel; Mr. Jones, solicitor Cardiff Branch, Executive Councilors Robinson, McQuillan, Skinner, Hunt, Candler, Gibbs, Douglas, Stedding, McDonald, McArthur, Airson, Holdforth, Arnold, Clark, Whitehead, Gammon, and Green. Mr. Friend represented the North of England Society, and Mr. Butcher the Hull Seamen's and Firemen's Society.

The deputation also included Mr. Leng, M.P., Sir G. Baden-Powell, M.P., Sir Wilfrid Lawson, M.P., Mr. Burt, M.P., Mr. A. Williams, M.P., Mr. Munro-Ferguson, M.P., Mr. Dickson, M.P., Mr. C. H. Wilson, M.P., Mr. Shiress Will, M.P., Mr. D. Sullivan, M.P., Mr. Whitley, M.P., Sir Thos. Sutherland, M.P., Mr. Arthur Williams, M.P., Mr. King, M.P., Mr. D. A. Thomas, M.P., Sir Hussey Vivian, M.P., Mr. Alfred Webb, M.P.

Mr. Leng, in introducing the deputation, said he had to regret the unavoidable absence of Sir Edward Reed, from whom the following letter had been received:—

"April 8, 1891.
"Dear Mr. Gardner,—On returning to town I find that the Seamen's Deputation to the Board of Trade is fixed at eleven o'clock to-morrow. Now, at eleven o'clock to-morrow I have, by a long-standing arrangement, to meet several gentlemen, and receive a very important report from a delegate who has been abroad on our business. It is utterly impossible, therefore, for me to attend the deputation. I am the more sorry for this, as I see that Mr. Wilson has been imprisoned, and cannot possibly attend to state the case. In so far as the shipping of improper men as A.B.'s is concerned, I should have been prepared if any opportunity offered, to make the strongest representations to the President of the Board of Trade as to the men whom you afterwards produced at the meeting of members of Parliament at the Westminster Palace Hotel, and all of whom had been shipped as A.B.'s in a single vessel. Making every allowance for the circumstances of the case at the time it is impossible to think of the safety of the ship and the lives of seamen being made dependent upon such utterly incompetent men, and to know that this was done in violation of an Act of Parliament without most urgently desiring to press upon the President of the Board of Trade the desirability of having the law in this matter put in force. If you think it will be of any advantage to show this letter to the President, or to ask his permission to read it, you are at perfect liberty to do so. Much regretting my inability to be with you to-morrow,—I am, dear Mr. Gardner, yours very truly—E. J. REED."

Continuing, Mr. Leng said that what they asked was that the Government should put in force the Merchant Seamen (Payment of Wages and Rating) Act, 1890, especially with regard to the following sections:—"A seaman shall not be entitled to the rating of A.B.—that is to say, of an able-bodied seaman—unless he has served at sea for four years before the mast, but the employment of seamen in registered decked fishing vessels shall only count as sea service up to the period of three years of such employment; and the rating of A.B. shall only be granted after at least one year's sea service in a trading vessel in addition to three or more year's sea service on board of registered decked fishing vessels;" and "such service may be proved by certificates of discharge, by a certificate of service from the Registrar General of Shipping and Seamen (which certificate the Registrar shall grant on payment of a fee not exceeding 6d.), and in which shall be specified whether the service was rendered in whole or in part in steam ship or in sailing ship, or by other satisfactory proof." He observed that at a recent inquiry preliminary to the trial of a Lascar, at Liverpool, for the murder of the master of the sailing ship *Buckingham*, the chief mate was reported to have said in his evidence—"When I came to look at things, I hardly knew what to do. Here I was with a big unmanageable ship (2,613 tons), in ballast, with 10 A.B.'s, four of whom could hardly speak a word of English; one came aboard with a broken leg, and another was ruptured. I also had six ordinary seamen, only one of whom had been to sea before (the rest being green fishermen), and five apprentices, three being their first voyage, and sick all the time of course.

The man who shipped second mate had only just got his certificate and had had no previous experience. I made the boatswain second mate, and the two best A.B.'s I made boatswains of, and a circus performer (a Frenchman), who shipped as A.B., I made cook, which left the above-mentioned crew." Was it not the duty of the shipping masters appointed by Local Marine Boards to see that A.B.'s were really able-bodied seamen; and he asked whether, in consideration of the prevailing complaints against the seamanship of the crews now commonly shipped in British vessels, the President would call the attention of the shipping masters to the importance of observing the provisions of the Merchant Shipping Acts with respect to the certificates of able-bodied seamen?

Mr. Henry Friend (Sunderland) said his Union had known of many cases where men who had shipped as A.B.'s were found quite unqualified to perform their work when the ships got to sea, several of which cases he cited. It would be some guarantee of qualification if the men were compelled, before signing articles, to produce a four years' certificate. Shipowners were not opposed to this and the Shipping Federation would not now give its tickets to incompetent men.

Mr. Robertson (Middlesbrough) complained that masters constantly gave men their discharges as able seamen when they were nothing of the sort.

The President.—How can I help that?
Mr. Robertson admitted that it would be difficult to put an absolute stop to the practice; but masters, he believed, would be ready to accept an intimation from the Board of Trade.

The President said he wished more advantage was taken of the Act of 1890, which enabled a seaman to obtain a certificate from the Registrar General for Seamen on payment of a fee of 6d. During the last ten or eleven years there had only been one or two applications for these certificates.

Other members of the deputation having spoken,

The President, in reply, said he understood that what was desired was that superintendents should prevent men from shipping as A.B.'s when they were not qualified as such. He was advised that the superintendents had no power to prevent a man signing himself A.B. when he was presented in that capacity. The Act did not say that a man who was not qualified should not be allowed to enter as A.B. The responsibility rested entirely with the master of the ship. However, he sympathised very much with their object, and, so far as the law allowed him, he had done something to help them by issuing a circular which he would read. It was as follows:—

"The superintendent Mercantile Marine Office.—It having been represented to the Board of Trade that, notwithstanding the provisions of Section 7 of the Merchant Shipping (Payment of Wages and Rating) Act, a large number of seamen are entered on articles as A.B.'s without possessing the statutory qualification of four years' service at sea before the mast, the superintendent is requested to report whether such a practice exists at his port, and if so, to what extent, estimating as nearly as he can, the proportion of such unqualified A.B.'s as are shipped at his port. In future the superintendent is directed before entering a seaman as an A.B. in any agreement to ask either the master or the seaman for proofs of his qualification to be rated as such, and in all cases in which the proofs mentioned in the section, viz., certificates of discharge or a certificate of service from the Registrar General of Seamen are not forthcoming, to make a note to that effect against the letters A.B. appertaining to his name in the agreement.—insertion of the letters 'n.p.' (not proved) will suffice." When the reports came in it would have to be considered whether fresh legislation was necessary.

The deputation thanked the right hon. gentleman and retired.

THE Liverpool Local Marine Board, on behalf of the Board of Trade, have awarded medals to Mr. E. J. Duffy (master), Mr. W. G. S. Nash (first mate), Mr. Henry Graham (boatswain), and Messrs. John Green, Fred. Nicholson, and James Dyer (A.B.'s), of the British steamship *Nephtis*, for services rendered to the crew of the iron sailing vessel *Great Victoria*, of Liverpool, on Jan 30, 1891, when the vessel had to be abandoned during a heavy gale in the Bay of Biscay.

OVERLOADING.—At Swansea Police Court, April 6, Robert Henry Gunning, owner of the steamship *Denia*, was charged with loading the vessel on Jan. 22 at Swansea so as to submerge in salt water the centre of the disc.—Mr. Vachell, Cardiff, prosecuted for the Mercantile Marine, and stated the facts of the case, which were admitted by Mr. Naylor for the defendant.—The Bench fined defendant the mitigated penalty of £25.—The master of the vessel was also charged with the offence, and was fined 40s.

SAILORS' AND FIREMEN'S UNION.

(From Special Correspondents.)

LONDON DISTRICT.

The secretary of the Seamen's Rest, St. George's-in-the-East, acknowledges with thanks the receipt of a parcel of books and other literature presented by the editor of SEAFARING for the use of seamen.

Mr. England, the general treasurer, has just returned from a tour of inspection of the Irish Branches, and reports most favourably on their flourishing condition, financial and otherwise.

At the Thames Police Court, William Day, 21, a fireman, was charged with breaking and entering the office of the Sailors' and Firemen's Union, at 17, King-street, Tower Hill, and stealing therefrom 6s. or 6s. in silver. Day declared that he was innocent. Mr. Dickinson, the magistrate, committed the prisoner for trial, and admitted him to bail.

The usual quarterly meeting of the Executive Council began on Wednesday, April 8, and was continued on April 9, at the central offices of the Union, the proceedings being as usual private, but it may be mentioned that owing to the absence of the general secretary—owing to his imprisonment—a report of the circumstances attending which will be found on page 2—some of the most important business to be transacted had to be postponed till the next meeting.

Tidal Basin Branch held its usual weekly meeting April 8. In the absence of the president and vice-president Bro. Simpson was voted to the chair. There were several discussions by the members with reference to private matters connected with the Branch, after which it was proposed and seconded that the minutes of the last Branch meeting be confirmed, and likewise the financial statement, which was carried. The members enrolled during the week were duly admitted, numbering 20. There was also one man admitted as a trimmer into the Branch, viz., J. Graham, who was proposed by Bro. Ward and seconded by Bro. Polton. The secretary then read a letter from the wife of the late Bro. O. Brine, who, it was stated, was laid up some months in the Brompton Hospital and has left her and the two children totally unprovided for. She appealed to the members of the Tidal Basin Branch to see if they could do anything for her and her children. It was then moved by Bro. Lowe, seconded by Bro. Ward, that we vote the wife the sum of £5. This was put to the meeting and carried (the secretary has since visited Mrs. O. Brine, and found it a very deserving case). At a committee meeting held on April 2, the president, Bro. Starkey, in the chair, it was resolved to bring Bro. Phelan into compliance, he having been laid up five months. The president tendered his resignation on account of his going to sea, and the meeting closed at 10 p.m. The two auditors, Bros. Dale and Thurston, are now auditing the books for the quarter ending March 31, 1891.

LIVERPOOL BRANCHES.

There was no meeting held at the Malakoff Hall on the 30th ult., owing to Bank Holiday falling on that day. On Monday, April 6, the usual weekly Branch meeting was held, Mr. A. Duncan, the president of the Branch, being in the chair, supported by Mr. L. Andrews in the vice-chair. The minutes having been confirmed, and the correspondence dealt with, the secretary explained that owing to cash-books, returns, vouchers, etc., being still in the hands of the chartered accountant, he had been unable to make out more than a provisional balance-sheet for the week ending 4th inst., which would, however, show the receipts and expenditure for the week. This was then read, and Bro. Kelly moved that the same be accepted, subject to audit; this was seconded by Bro. Mulhoney, and carried. Mr. Camma being under medical treatment was unable to be in attendance, but sent a letter of apology and his brother to represent him, and the pleasing ceremony of the presentation was next proceeded with. Mr. W. Nicholson, district secretary, after an appropriate address, presented the gold medal of the Union on behalf of the Branch to Mr. Camma, for having been the means of enrolling 54 members in the Branch. After a few words of acknowledgement for the medal, Mr. Camma presented to the Branch, on behalf of his brother, a handsome flag, being the Italian national ensign, which on being displayed was heartily cheered, and a vote of thanks terminated this interesting episode. The outside delegates' reports were read, and after a few questions were adopted. The meeting then proceeded to discuss the step

taken by the members of the Birkenhead Branch in criticising the actions of the members of this Branch and discussing matters the true facts of which they were ignorant of. It was remarked that it would be wiser for the Birkenhead Branch to confine their attentions in the future to matters which concern them. After a few words from Mr. Nicholson, the secretary, and others, Bro. Hewson handed in to the chairman the following resolution:—"Resolved that the election of Mr. H. R. Taunton as secretary of this Branch be, and is hereby approved and confirmed, and further be it resolved that the Executive Council is hereby respectfully requested to instruct the members of the Birkenhead Branch to mind their own business." This was seconded by Bro. Leithhead, and on being put to the meeting was carried unanimously. After matters of no general interest were dealt with, the meeting resolved that in future committee meetings should be held only once a month, but oftener if necessary, great difficulty being experienced in getting the members of the Branch committee to attend. In the course of the discussion it was observed that members who did not care to trouble themselves to perform the duties appertaining to the office of committee-men ought not to have allowed themselves to have been nominated for the post. The meeting then adjourned.

At the weekly meeting of the Liverpool Tug and Ferry Branch, held on April 1, Mr. ——— in the chair, Mr. ——— in the vice-chair, after the usual formal business was transacted, it was resolved that the by-laws sub-committee meet on 3rd inst. at 10 o'clock. Mr. ——— then read some by-laws which were drawn up by the London Tugboat Branch, and some discussion thereon showed that the existing conditions on the Mersey rendered these by-laws quite useless for local purposes. The meeting then adjourned.

A largely attended meeting of the members of the Boundary-street Branch was held on Wednesday night, April 1, in the Union Rooms, under the presidency of Mr. D. Crawley. After the usual routine business, correspondence was read from head office, from several Branches, and from Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P. for this division. He stated it would give him the greatest of pleasure to attend the deputation to wait on Sir M. Hicks-Beach on the 9th inst., if he was in London. This was received with a great outburst of applause. Bro. J. O'Gorman then addressed the meeting on the advisability of forming a board of arbitration and conciliation for the settlement of disputes in the Mersey district. He stated that after looking back at the last few years of strike policy of the various Unions of this district, in his opinion it only brought loss to employer and employed, and if they could only settle their disputes by conciliation boards according to the principles of Trades Unionism, it would be the best for all concerned. Bro. Johnson moved, and Bro. Jones seconded, that after hearing the very able address of Bro. O'Gorman, we believe it to be the best policy for our officials to assist in the formation of such a board. Bro. Dickinson, in supporting the resolution, said he hoped the present movement to constitute a board of reference for the adjustment of disputes that may arise between employers and employed would be a success, and if carried into practical effect, will, it is hoped, prevent those conflicts which entail so much misery on the working classes, loss to the employers, and injury to the industry and trade of the country. He pointed out the case of the Liverpool carters as an illustration. A serious difference occurred a short time ago between the master carters and drivers, and a strike took place, and for a time the vehicular traffic was at a standstill. A conference took place between the representatives of the men and the employers. The dispute was then settled, and it was resolved that, in case of any dispute in the future, it should be brought before a similar conference for adjustment. He (the speaker) thought we ought to take a leaf out of Michael Davitt's book, where he says if it was duly resolved upon to give a two or three years' rest to the strike policy to employ the interval to extending and solidifying the work of organisation, and building up of financial resources from within the ranks of labour. Also to keep their eye on the next General Election—not to send shipowners or members of the legal profession, or half-pay army officers to Parliament to represent them, but to vote for men that pledged themselves up to the hilt to support labour reforms, that would do more good than if they adhered to the strike policy for a lifetime. The resolution being then put to the meeting, was carried unanimously. The meeting then discussed a question with reference to our general secretary, an attack being made on him by a landsman who never saw a ship except on a picture, yet wants to dictate Trade Unionism to the seamen of this country, which is too absurd for the columns of our good ship SEAFARING.

The Bootle Branch held their usual weekly meeting on Tuesday last, 7th inst. Mr. J. Lynas, vice-president, in the chair. The usual routine was first gone through. The secretary then asked permission to pay a gas bill and a bill for rates, and it was accorded him. Bro. Edwards, one of the outside delegates, then tendered his resignation, and it was reluctantly accepted. It was then moved by Bro. Ford that Bro. Thos. Wilson be elected as outside delegate. This was seconded by Bro. Edwards, supported by Bro. P. Marmion, and carried unanimously. A discussion then took place about the result of Mr. Wilson's trial at Cardiff, and feeling ran high, three groans being given for the boarding-masters, and one of the members ventured to ask, whether or not the eminent Recorder is in any way connected with capital in the employment of labour, and asked how many of the jurymen were working men, pure and simple. Another remarked that that was the way men were treated when once they were within the grasp of the tender-hearted capitalist. The capitalist said he was only working for their good, and invited them to smash their Union up and come into his arms again. There was one thing certain, this case would put the men on their mettle, and give them heart to fight for their cause, and let no chance slip by, as they can see that their loving friends, the shipowners, are not letting any chances slip past them. After a vote of thanks to the chairman, the meeting then adjourned.

GLASGOW BRANCH.

At the usual weekly meeting of this Branch held on April 2, in the Typographical Hall, 102 Maxwell-street, Bro. A. McGregor in the chair, the minutes of the previous meeting being read were unanimously adopted, as also the committee minutes after several items had been commented on. The return for the week ending March 28 was then submitted and unanimously accepted. No correspondence, complaints, or new business being forthcoming the meeting closed.

LEITH BRANCH.

The general meeting of this Branch, held on March 31, was presided over by Bro. Robertson (vice-chairman) and was fairly well attended. The minutes of the previous meeting were read, and after some discussion adopted unanimously. The minutes of the committee meeting were read and adopted. At that committee meeting a sub-committee had been appointed to make inquiries regarding a safe which was desired by the Branch for the office subject to the committee's approval. The sub-committee reported that the inquiries made were not satisfactory, and therefore they took no action till the general meeting decided. It was then agreed that the report of the committee be approved of, and as they were not satisfied with their inquiries they be empowered to purchase one of the others mentioned. Bro. Skinner made an explanation regarding a resolution passed by the Executive Council which had been criticised by the Branch, but no action was taken after hearing the explanation. The financial reports were then read, and the meeting was afterwards brought to a close.

We have received notice from Messrs. Munro-Ferguson and T. R. Buchanan, M.P.s, that they will attend the deputation in London on Thursday.

DUNDEE BRANCH.

A would-be comic paper here wants to know how much the Union has cost the seafaring fraternity. The answer is simple. It has cost some of them hard work, and others the sacrifice of some money, but the seafaring fraternity as a whole has benefited by increased wages, and in other ways.

The usual weekly meeting of the above Branch was held April 6. Mr. Alex. Fortune, vice-chairman of the Branch, occupied the chair for the evening, in the absence of the chairman, the first business being to admit two members as trimmers. The minutes and income and expenditure having been adopted, a discussion took place re a barque which was going a run to Shields. It was stated by some of the members that the captain was offering the men 30s. and their passage back in the tug, that being £1 under our rate of wages. The members considered that the captain's offer was not satisfactory. The secretary then submitted to the members present the rate for runs as agreed upon by the Federated Unions of the North of England. On the motion of Bro. A. Robb, seconded by Bro. J. Moncrieff, it was decided to approach the captain, with the rates as contained in the circular of the above Unions, with the view of coming to an agreement. A discussion also took place regarding men who had joined the Union previous to the reduction of the entrance fee, and whose entrance fee is not paid up yet. Bro. Robt. Kerr moved the following resolution to be submitted to the Executive Council, viz., that any man who has joined

the Union previous to the reduction and now paying his entrance fee by instalments, be not requested to pay more of his instalments, but be admitted at whatever instalments he has paid. A charge brought against a member of this Branch by the secretary of Aberdeen having been allowed to lie over until the man appeared, and he being now present, gave his explanation of the dispute, which went to show that there had been some very serious misunderstanding regarding the dispute of the s.s. *Garry*. Bro. A. Y. McDonald moved it lie on the table for another week, and that the secretary write to Aberdeen giving the full particulars as stated to-night; seconded by Bro. J. Smith. As an amendment, Bro. A. McDonald moved that Bro. Leslie's statement be accepted; seconded by Bro. A. Robb. A vote was then taken, when nine voted for the amendment and nine for the motion. The chairman then gave his casting vote in favour of the amendment.

As Monday first is the annual spring holiday here, the office will be closed, and the meeting will be held on Tuesday night.

HULL BRANCH.

At the meeting on Tuesday, Mr. S. Lawday in the chair, after the adoption of the minutes correspondence was read from the local M.P. regarding the deputation to Sir M. Hicks-Beach. Mr. Chas. Wilson and Mr. King expressed their willingness to attend, but, Mr. Grotian, through a previous engagement, would not be able to be there. Outside delegate's reports were read and passed. A resolution was proposed by Bro. W. Overton, seconded by Bro. Tindall, "That we, the members of the Hull Branch do tender to Mr. J. H. Wilson our heartfelt and sincere sympathy; as in our opinion he is nothing short of a martyr to Trade Unionism;" carried unanimously. Proposed by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Overton, that a true record be kept of the chairman's and committee's attendance, and that any official on arrival home and going to sea to report themselves.

All members are earnestly requested to attend next Tuesday night's meeting, as something of great importance will be brought before the members.

NORTH SHIELDS BRANCH.

At the weekly meeting, Bro. Riddle, V.P., in the chair, the minutes were adopted, the weekly and quarterly financial balance-sheets were submitted to the members and approved of. Complaints were made by the secretary about not having correspondence answered. It was resolved to pay certain bills due. One member was reported on the sick fund, and one shipwreck paid for the week. Shipping very slack here. Men plentiful. The secretary had written to the local M.P., referring to the deputation on the rating of A.B.'s, but had had no answer up till April 6. A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the meeting.

Balance-sheet for the quarter ending March 28, 1891:—Income—Balance from last quarter £594 2s. 4d., entrance £46 6s. 6d., contributions £238 5s. 1d., sick fund £7 8s. 6d., rules £2 15s. 5d., fines 12s., levies £7 7s. 6d., SEAFARING £5, contributions to new banner £6 3s. 6d., received from treasurer £65, non-local discount 2s. 6d.; total £973 3s. 4d. Balance brought down £494 10s. 9d. Expenditure—Salaries—Secretary £21 8s. 6d., boys (2) £5 18s., delegates (2) £29 10s., cleaning £1 12s. 6d., furniture 26s. 8d., banner £10, postage £2 6s., expenses (see petty cash book) £5 0s. 9d., SEAFARING £5, stationery and printing £4 8s. 5d., rent up to February 2nd, 1891; £3 10s., shipwrecks—s.s. *Arindilly* and *Bessmere* £7 10s., sick insurance £4 9s. 6d., Cardiff strike £100, gas 4s. 11d., travelling 8s. 10d., auditors 25s.; sick pay £3 10s., law charges (case of Joseph Myth) £4 8s., contributions to executive £35, contributions to non-locals £31 3s., strike pay £115 7s., protection pay £34 0s. 6d., treasurer's salary £1 5s., balance in hand £494 10s. 9d., total £973 3s. 4d. Examined and found correct, James Riddle, Charles Wood, auditors, George Cowie, secretary.

SOUTH SHIELDS BRANCH.

At the usual weekly meeting, April 6, in the Hall, Mill Dam, there was a good attendance. The minutes being adopted, the secretary stated that there were three shipwreck claims, three members on the sick list, and three new members had been enrolled during the week. It was decided that the secretary supply the necessary furniture for the waiting-room, including a clock. It was stated that the waiting-room had been the means of supplying thirty Union men during the week, thereby preventing the detention of ships, and that it is giving great satisfaction to masters and officers in general, and a great benefit to the Union. The secretary read the quarterly balance-sheet which was received with great satisfaction, the

income during the quarter of 12 weeks amounting to £1,502 17s. 4d., which showed that the Branch was still making satisfactory progress notwithstanding the Shipping Federation, Limited, and that the members are still more sanguine of the greater benefits that they will derive in the near future. The sick pay distributed to the amount of £47 15s. 11d. among members during the quarter is a proof of the benefits of the Union, so too are shipwreck claims paid amounting to £63 18s. 6d., and the Branch has added to the furniture to the extent of £13 14s. 7d. It has also made several grants to various strikes, amounting to £550, thus showing what combination can do, and how important a part the Branch has played in helping the cause of labour. Other benefits too numerous to mention have been conferred on members, any of whom wishing information in reference to the balance-sheet can obtain it at the office, where the secretary will be only too glad to answer those members who wish to make inquiries. The report having been fully explained by the auditors it was unanimously adopted. A circular was then read from the Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce, dealing with labour disputes and asking for suggestions from the members that will lead to some result whereby employers and employed may meet and discuss all grievances. This circular caused a good debate, in which Mr. Shelley, of the Coal Porters', took part. Five applications were then made for shipwreck claim from the s.s. *Stanhope*, which the members decided that the secretary should pay on satisfactory proof. The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to Mr. Shelley.

A correspondent complains that the *South Shields Gazette* inserts letters from a person who was expelled from the Union, but will not insert letters from members of the Union. Why not try another local paper?

At the South Shields Police Court, Isabella Grieve, of 16, East Holborn, has been summoned for refusing to return to Thomas Gibbs (coloured seaman) a quantity of clothing, value £2 7s. 6d. Mr. R. Jacks appeared for complainant, who stated that on Dec. 24 he went to board at Mrs. Grieve's house. He had a bag of clothes. He paid 15s. in advance, and stayed four weeks, at the end of which time he owed £2 15s. On Jan. 19 he signed on with the s.s. *Lucor*. He got an advance note, and gave it to Mrs. Grieve. She refused to give up his clothes, whereupon he stopped the note. On his return from sea, she still refused to give up the clothes. She afterwards came to the Shipping Office, where he agreed to pay what was due if she handed over the clothes. She got what was due, but she still failed to give up the clothing. He saw Mrs. Grieve's son wearing one of his shirts and called a policeman's attention to the fact. Mrs. Grieve said complainant was telling lies, and called servants to say that Gibbs had not the clothes he alleged when he came to her house. The magistrates made an order for Mrs. Grieve to deliver up the whole of the effects or the value thereof, and imposed a fine of 40s. and costs, defendant to also pay the solicitor's fee.

SUNDERLAND BRANCH.

At the usual weekly meeting at the Dog and Pheasant, Coronation-street, Mr. J. W. Priest in the chair, there was a very good attendance. The secretary read several letters, and submitted the balance-sheet for the quarter. Bro. F. Jaques moved, and Bro. J. G. Budd seconded, that the balance-sheet be adopted as very satisfactory. The Branch had spent some money during the late dispute, but what had the Federation spent? What we had spent was a mere trifle compared with their expense, and it was believed that the Federation had unconsciously fought a good battle for the seamen of this country, for it was believed that a great amount of good would accrue from the introduction of the Federation ticket. One thing that it had done. It had shown that the seamen can fight and will fight, and it had caused inquiries as to what kind of men are at times sent to sea as seamen. There is not the slightest doubt but that it would bring about a qualification before a man will be entitled to the rating of A.B. This Branch decided to have a trip some time in the summer, under the auspices of the Union, to the country, for a day's outing. The meeting was then addressed at length by Bro. J. B. Lee, Bro. Lonsdale, and others, on the present condition of affairs.

MIDDLESBROUGH BRANCH.

Owing to the Easter holidays the Branch meeting was adjourned until April 2, Mr. Jas. Mucklow in the chair. The minutes having been confirmed, the secretary read a letter from Isaac Wilson, Esq., M.P., consenting to form one of the deputation to wait upon the President of the Board of Trade on April 9. After the correspondence had been read

it was decided that the correspondence be accepted, and after other business the meeting adjourned.

At the general meeting, April 6, Mr. J. Mucklow, president, in the chair, Mr. W. Bowden in the vice-chair, Bro. Dan McGuckin was accepted into this Branch as trimmer, on the motion of Bro. Geo. Bolton, seconded by Bro. F. Kerzo. The minutes having been read, and several items being thoroughly discussed, it was moved by Bro. Geo. Bolton, seconded by Bro. R. Lynas, that they be confirmed; carried. The secretary then read a letter from the Trades Council, asking the Branch to pass an opinion *re* the overtime question. It was decided to allow the delegates a free hand in the matter when brought before the council. A discussion then took place on working-men candidates for Parliamentary and municipal elections, the meeting being strongly in favour of working men.

KING'S LYNN BRANCH.

At the usual weekly meeting April 6, C. W. Arnold, president, in the chair, the minutes, income and expenditure were confirmed; correspondence was read from general secretary, etc. Bros. Rowe and Swain, the auditors, then gave in their report of the quarterly audit, stating that the accounts were correct and kept in a simple and creditable manner. It was moved by Bro. T. Smith that the best thanks be accorded to the auditors for their report, also to secretary for the able manner in which the books were kept, seconded by Bro. W. Newman; carried. The secretary then addressed the members in respect of the deputation to wait upon Sir Michael Hicks-Beach on April 9, consisting of the different M.P.'s, and was pleased to state that the M.P. for the port had consented to be one of the deputation with other M.P.'s, also stating that the general secretary, in conjunction with Tom Mann, meant to visit King's Lynn in the interest of Trade Unionism. After the usual vote of thanks, the meeting adjourned.

GRIMSBY BRANCH.

At the usual weekly meeting at Unity House, April 6, the president, Mr. S. T. Brock, in the chair, the minutes and accounts of the previous week were passed, and correspondence and outside delegate's report were adopted. Twenty-four new members reported enrolled since the last meeting were accepted into the Union. The secretary addressed the meeting respecting a banner for the Branch, saying that seeing the majority of the Branches now had appropriate banners, it was time the Grimsby Branch were moving in the matter. Bro. Lloyd moved, and Bro. Robinson seconded, that considering the small attendance a special meeting be called to take into consideration the question of raising a banner fund.

Trade is improving, there being few men out of employment. Two ships have signed for Bombay at Union rates, and all Union men without the Federation ticket, the articles containing a clause instead, pledging the men to proceed to sea with whomsoever they sign with. If the object is to introduce non-Unionists the clause is entirely inoperative as none but Union men can be obtained here.

ABERDEEN BRANCH.

At the usual weekly meeting of this Branch, held on April 6, Mr. J. Farquharson, in the absence of the president, occupied the chair, and there was a fair attendance of members. The minutes of former meeting were read and approved. Correspondence was next read, which chiefly consisted of the following, from members of Parliament for the city and county:—"Reform Club, 31st March. Dear Mr. Thomson.—The Joint Committee on the Railway Bills meets on the 9th, and probably at eleven. If so, my attendance is compulsory; but if we meet at 11.30 or twelve, I shall be able to attend the deputation, as there is no class of working men more deserving of our support and sympathy than those who go down to the sea in ships. If you will be good enough to keep me informed I shall not spare to help them to the utmost of my power.—Yours truly, W. A. HUNTER." "County Clare. Dear Sir,—Yours of the 26th has just reached me in the west of Ireland, where I am making a journey round the 'congested districts.' If I am able to reach London by Thursday the 9th, the day fixed for the deputation to which your letter refers, I will with pleasure accompany it, but it may prove impossible for me to accomplish the tour I have arranged on the west coast so as to get back to London by the forenoon of that day. What I heard at the meeting at the Westminster Palace Hotel a fortnight ago certainly went to show that the existing law regarding seamen is not only enforced, and I am glad that the subject is to be brought before the notice of the Board of Trade in the way proposed.—Faithfully

yours, J. BRYCE." "Aberdeen, April 4. Dear Sir,—I regret that an important meeting in Aberdeen, on the 10th, will detain me here next week. It will, therefore, not be in my power to attend the deputation to the President of the Board of Trade. Kindly make my apology, and ask Dr. Farquharson, who is in London, to take my place.—Yours faithfully, P. ESSELMONT." No answer had been received from Dr. Farquharson whether he would be able to attend or not.

DUNDALK BRANCH.

The following is a copy addressed to J. Chamberlain, Esq., M.P.:—"Dear Sir,—I find that you are taking a deep interest in the welfare of seamen. There are many things I would like to draw your attention to which you could rectify by your great influence, but for the present I will content myself with a few cases which have recently come under my notice. To illustrate what I say: they are all in direct opposition to the letter of the Merchant Shipping Act, and grossly unfair to the unfortunate seamen. This is due to the fact that owners absolutely ignore the Act, or employ captains—captains only in name, for none of them are certificated—who are unacquainted with its sections, or the rights of seamen thereunder. The Board of Trade, or the Customs in the smaller ports in Ireland, take no action, and for aught they do the Act is a dead letter, and useless. What is the result? Take the case of the brigantine —, of Drogheda, Ireland. She is a large coaster of over 150 tons, registered 90. On arriving in port the crew, numbering four, excepting the captain, were dismissed by the owner, not by the captain, for not discharging coals which they signed not to do under a steam crane, the labourers and dockworkmen who always did the work being on strike. The case was brought up by the men before the justices at Petty Sessions. It transpired at the hearing that two of the men were under articles (see Section 156), and two were not, or rather that two of the men had signed articles stipulating that they would not work under the steam crane, and that two more had not signed; but the uncertified captain signed them on without authority. The articles were never read to the men (section 156); there was no copy of same exhibited on board. Result, all cases dismissed, and claim for 25 days' wages (the number of days from engagement up to dismissal) disallowed. Now, in connection with these cases, I must remark that the magistrates knew as much of the Merchant Shipping Act as mid-African pigmies, and looked on the cases as an organised Union attempt to intimidate shipowners. Yet another case. A ship arrived in port four days later, for the same reason the crew was discharged by the owner. They, too, brought their cases before the magistrates, on the same day as the others. At the hearing articles were produced of a former voyage, and it was contended successfully on behalf of the owner, that these articles were binding though the captain (uncertified, of course), admitted that he always thought it necessary to prepare fresh articles for each voyage, and admitted doing so for two of the crew on the present voyage, not doing it for the others. Result the same (see sections 171, 181, 182, 187), the men still idle and starving with their wives and families, and the Board of Trade have done nothing to compel the owners to observe the sections of the M. S. A. Is this justice, or what is the use of the Act of Parliament? If its provisions are not thoroughly administered, what are the men to do. I address you as secretary of the Dundalk Branch of Seamen's Union, and respectfully ask you to give these cases your consideration, which are only two of the many that every other day arise in Irish ports. You will not look upon the Union, which is fairly and legitimately looking after the interest of its members, as the bogey that the magistrates considered it. Thanking you on behalf of our Union, for the interest you have already displayed in their welfare.—I remain, yours obediently, THOS. McKEVITT."

SCANDINAVIAN DEPARTMENT.

A meeting of the Gothenburg Branch was held in 24, Bergsgatan, Gothenburg, on the usual meeting night (Wednesday evening), Mar. 25. After the usual programme the secretary announced that the ship *Senator Weber* was lost on her voyage from Cardiff to Rio Janeiro, and he feared that two of our members had gone down in her. He thought that if they were lost the least their Branch could do was to arrange a benefit entertainment for their parents, who are very poor and old. (Since this meeting it has been found that all the crew of the *Senator Weber* were saved.) The secretary announced that the police were using every possible effort to get our flag down from the office, but without success, and he assured them

that as long as the Union Jack represented England all their efforts would be without avail. Several members said it was a pity that the police had nothing else to do. It was moved and seconded that we get a respectable citizen to take out a license for the Union to be permitted to supply seamen and firemen to ships. Several members were proposed and entered.

A meeting was held on Wednesday, April 1. After the programme was gone through, Mr. Bruce moved that Mr. L. Lundgren, the editor of *Brosåden*, become an honorary member of this Branch, which was seconded and agreed to, and he accordingly paid his entrance fee and was entered. This being the last meeting-night for the election of a secretary for this Branch, the election resulted in Bruce being elected, his wages to be 75 Kr. per month. A vote of thanks was passed to the A. S. and F. Union in England, coupled with three hearty sailors' cheers for its progress and prosperity. The meeting also passed a vote of thanks to Mr. C. S. Nielsen for the work he so ably had accomplished. Mr. Nielsen in responding said that the best thanks the members could give their brethren in England and himself, was to find every member using every effort to promote the good cause started among them. In conclusion, he informed them that the Branch was now only four members short of one hundred strong, and if they all would make themselves into Union missionaries, they would in less than one year have all the seafaring people of Gothenburg organised.

GOOLE BRANCH.

The usual weekly meeting was held at 24, Boothferry-road on Tuesday, Bro. J. E. Gibbins in the chair. Minutes having been read, a vote of sympathy with Mrs. J. H. Wilson (wife of general secretary) was proposed by Mr. F. W. Young, district secretary, seconded by W. R. Chappell, Branch secretary, and supported by Brothers J. Rockett, J. Hackett, B. Bishop, and carried unanimously. A vote of condolence and sympathy with Mr. John Austin, M.P. for the division (Mr. Austin's daughter having died on Saturday) was also carried. The secretary announced that Mr. Geo. Sherwood, the labour candidate for the Local Board, had been returned for that Board, he having come in fourth on the list. Mr. Sherwood, who, on entering the room, was received with loud cheers, thanked the sailors and firemen for the support they had given him. This is the second Board we have been successful in putting labour candidates on during the last two months, and we are now running one for the Board of Guardians. Let every Goole seaman vote for Tom Holliday, the labour candidate, and by doing so we shall be able to place him at the head of the poll.

Seamen in search of work are advised to keep from Goole as there are a number of men belonging to the town out of employment. Seventeen unemployed on the list.

PETERHEAD BRANCH.

Our members have rapidly left here for a more congenial climate, but a few leave for Greenland on Saturday. Shipwreck claims were paid to J. Spence and W. McKechnie, who lost their clothes in a steamer on the English coast last week. The loss of a Norwegian barque and seven of the crew at Rattray Head on Monday should hasten the decision of the Government and help to get electric communication at once between this and that dangerous point. The proposed lightship or light-house should have their earliest consideration. If such had been, then these poor men would not have been drowned. The saved man says they saw both Buchanness and Kinnard Head light, but were not aware of the near proximity to the reef.

The monthly meeting of our Branch took place on Tuesday, and it pleased the members to hear that the income was at the rate of £1 per day. In fact, the members here have seen the duplicity of the owners and are determined on keeping up the Union, even although they go in so-called Federation ships. Three crews who were sent here by the Union because they would not sign the "ticket," have been again sent for by the masters of the steamers they left, as the crews they got from the Federation office were useless. This is good proof that we have the best of men. The secretary, Mr. T. D. Rennie, tabled his resignation, he being appointed organising secretary for the North of Scotland, and not *Superintendent for Scotland*, as a penny-a-liner had given it. Mr. Rennie warned the members to be aware of the tactics of the owners who employ men to slander the Union and their officials. They must pull together and build up a Union which would be an honour to themselves. They must unite in bringing everyone under one banner, and keep the owners to their word, and let the men have a good day's wage for a good day's work. They had nothing to fear here, everyone was paying who had not fines to pay up, and at the

rate of 20s. per day for the last two days, showing that his advice had been taken, and in a few months the good ship "Union" would be sailing before a fresh breeze. Mr. A. Guthrie was elected secretary *pro tem*, to follow the footsteps of his predecessor Mr. Rennie, and will commence his duties in a few days, he being in the meantime incapacitated, owing to an accident to his knee since his appointment. It was unanimously agreed to send the following resolution to SEAFARING for publication:—"That the members of this Branch sympathise with Mr. Wilson, his wife, and family, owing to the trouble he has had because of his love for the seamen. They hope when his term of confinement is over he will consider himself a martyr of the first water. What he did was at the worst an error of judgment, and that their faith in him is still as strong as ever."

HOMeward BOUND.

The following vessels have been reported as homeward bound since the last issue of SEAFARING:—

Avon left Guadeloupe Mar 29, for Liverpool
Aretas left Porto Plata Feb 26, for Falmouth
Atalanta, Denker, left Guayaquil Dec 11, for Chant
Andreat, Peregrine, left Melbourne Feb 20, for Channel
Antonio left Savannah Mar 31, for U K
Aurora left Savannah April 1, for U K
Alice left New York April 3, for U K
Alert left Wilmington, NC, Mar 26, for Bowling
Bonny left Lagos April 3, for Liverpool
Brunswick left Maranham April 5, for Liverpool
Ballarat left Adelaide April 1, for London
Boston City left New York, April 3, for London
Bengore Head left Baltimore April 1, for Glasgow
Bona left Charleston April 3, for U K
Bremerhaven left Philadelphia April 4, for U K
Buena Ventura left Norfolk April 4, for U K
Ciudad de Santander left Havannah Mar 20, for Liverpool
Columbian left Boston April 1, for Liverpool
City of Chester left New York April 1, for Lpool
Canada left New York April 1, for Liverpool
California left New Orleans Mar 31, for Liverpool
Carthaginian left Portland April 2, for Liverpool
Clan Maclean left Madras April 2, for London
Optic left Lyttelton April 5, for London
Circassia left New York Mar 28, for Clyde
Chondor, Daniels, left Laguna April 4, for Channel
Ceres left Charleston Mar 31, for U K
Curry Treffenburg left Charleston April 2, for U K
California left New York April 4, for U K
Cyrene left Bombay April 2, for U K
Clytie, Beer, left Mauritius Mar 10, for Cork
Christian Sriver, Rostrop, clrd at Halifax Mar 20, for Dublin
Colorado left New York April 2, for Hull
City of Carlisle left Portland, O, Nov 25, for Sligo
Cape of Good Hope left San Francisco Feb 26, for Sligo
Cicero left Port Nolloth Feb 28, for Swansea
D H Morris, Jacobsen, clrd at Pensacola Mar 18, for London
Dunare, Collin, left Pernambuco Mar 11, for Ch'el
Dee left San Francisco Mar 23, for Galway
Effective left Coosaw Mar 30, for U K
Ellen left Mobile Mar 31, for U K
Ellida left Mobile Mar 30, for U K
Ellida, Thorsen, clrd at Pascagoula Mar 13, for Belfast
Ebenezer, Mindebo, clrd at Halifax Mar 22, for Llanely
Egero, Berentsen, clrd at Pensacola Jan 21, for Tyne
Evelyn left San Francisco Dec 5, for Waterford
Frieda reported sailed from Coconada Mar 26, for Liverpool
Firth of Clyde left Sydney, NSW, Mar 24, for L'dn
Fulwood left Rangoon Mar 11, for Channel
Frammas, Nettson, left Martin Garcia Feb 8, for U K
Fiery Cross, Casey, left Melbourne April 2, for U K
Golden Horn, Andersen, clrd at Pensacola Mar 20, for Liverpool
Germanic left New York April 1, for Liverpool
Gloamin left Cerra April 5, for Liverpool
Glenfalloch left Hiogo Mar 30, for London
Gezusters van Haften left St. Helena Feb 1, for Channel
Gwrtheyrn Castle left Talcahuano Mar 25, for Barrow
Glynwood, Hughes, clrd at Darien Mar 20, for Rhyt
Heraclides left River Plate April 2, for Liverpool
Hornby Grange left Buenos Ayres April 4, for Liverpool
Holland left New York April 2, for London
Helenburgh, Denver, left San Francisco Mar 30, for Falmouth
Hatfield left Newport News April 2, for U K

Hiperion, Gladulich, clrd at Pensacola Mar 24, for Cardiff
 Henry Failing left San Francisco Jan 9, for Fleetwood
 Helene, Erlandsen, clrd at Pascagoula Mar 2, for Fleetwood
 Iberia s left Valparaiso Mar 25, for Liverpool
 Ivanhoe left Melbourne Feb 18, for London
 Industrie left Wallaroo Feb 16, for Channel
 India, clrd at Pascagoula Mar 14, for Leith
 J H Henkes left Porto Plata Feb 26, for London.
 Java left Iquique April 3, for U K
 James Watt s left Newport News April 4, for U K
 King Alfred s left Demerara Mar 31, for Liverpool
 Kaiser-i-Hind s left Colombo April 3, for London
 Karlsruhe s left Baltimore April 2, for U K
 Karen clrd at Halifax Mar 19, for Mumbles
 Lakefield left Sapelo Mar 31, for Liverpool
 Lydian Monarch s left New York Mar 30, for London
 Liverpool left Melbourne Mar 23, for London
 Lancing left Calcutta Mar 29, for Dundee
 Lennie, Munro, left Rio Janeiro Mar 6, for Cardiff
 Lord Londonderry s left Baltimore April 3, for Dublin
 Mariner s left Pernambuco Mar 30, for Liverpool
 Monrovia s left Pensacola April 2, for Liverpool
 Manhattan s left New York April 2, for Liverpool
 Mississippi s left Baltimore Mar 30, for London
 Mairi Bahn, M'Intyre, left Napier NZ Feb 24, for London
 Montana s left Baltimore April 4, for London
 Mombassa s left Madras April 3, for London
 Manitoban s left Philadelphia April 2, for Clyde
 Montauk s left New York Mar 30, for U K
 Magnat, Ostermann, left Wallaroo Feb 16, for U K
 Maria Margreta left Rosario Jan 16 passed Point Indio Feb 8, for U K
 Mount Edgecumbe s left Charlotte Harbour Mar 26, for U K
 Morgengry left Charleston Mar 31, for U K
 Maristow s left Buenos Ayres April 2, for U K
 Maria L left New Orleans April 3, for U K
 Moor s left Cape Town April 1, for Southampton
 Nevada s left New York April 4, for Liverpool
 Navarro s left Boston Mar 31, for London
 Newman Hall left Pensacola Mar 2, for Greenock
 Nostra Signora della Salute left Mobile Mar 30, for U K
 Najaden left Savannah April 2, for U K
 Nanna left New York April 3, for U K
 Otto Graf zu Stolberg, Wiesemann, left Rio Grande Dec 31, for Liverpool
 O'Kohan, Witt, left Barahona Mar 11, for Liverpool
 Olbers s left New York April 2, for Liverpool
 Oevenum s left New York Mar 30, for U K
 Oswin s left New Orleans Mar 30, for U K
 Oneota left Philadelphia April 4, for U K
 Puerto Riqueno s left Porto Rico April 2, for Liverpool
 Procidia s left Philadelphia Mar 28, for London
 Parramatta s left Adelaide April 1, for London
 Port Adelaide s left Adelaide Mar 26, for London
 Prussian s left Boston Mar 27, for Clyde
 Peter Iredale left Portland, O, April 5, for Channel
 Para s left Barbadoes Mar 28, for Plymouth
 Queensmore s left Baltimore April 4, for Liverpool
 Queen Mab, Brown, left Iquique Jan 12, for U K
 Rufford Hall s left Kurrahee Mar 30, for Liverpool
 Ripon City s left Boston Mar 26, for London
 Rossignol left Monte Video Mar 31, for Cardiff
 Rialto s left Baltimore April 4, for Hull
 Sherbro s left Lagos Mar 30, for Liverpool
 St Enoch s left New York April 2, for Liverpool
 Somerton s left Galveston April 2, for Liverpool
 Samaria s left Boston April 4, for Liverpool
 Sir Garnet Wolseley s left New York April 6, for Liverpool
 Star of India, Wilson, clrd at Mobile Mar 17, for Dundee
 Sarmatian s left Boston April 2, for Glasgow
 Seafarer, Tupman, left Rangoon Mar 3, for Channel
 Sierra Nevada left San Francisco April 1, for Channel
 Star of Persia, Russell, left Newcastle, NSW, Mar 27, for Channel
 Surto left Savannah April 4, for U K
 Stag s left Norfolk April 4, for U K
 Theodor Fischer left New York Mar 11, for Liverpool
 The Queen s left New York Mar 23, for London
 Tekoa s left New Zealand April 1, for London
 Twilight, Jones, clrd at Talcahuana Feb 16, for U K
 Tinto Hill left Rangoon April 1, for U K
 Umbria s left New York April 4, for Liverpool
 Unicorn left Galveston Mar 29, for U K
 Urbino s left Baltimore April 4, for U K
 Wistow Hall s left Bombay Mar 30, for Liverpool
 Warwick s left Baltimore Mar 30, for Clyde
 Wandraham s left Philadelphia April 2, for Clyde
 Westward Ho left Pisagua Nov 30, for U K
 Wild Flower s left Philadelphia Mar 30, for U K
 Wordsworth s left Manila April 2, for U K
 Wells City s left New York Mar 28, for Bristol
 Werra s left New York April 1, for Southampton

SEAFARING DISASTERS.

Eleonore, s, sunk through collision; crew saved.
Dungonnell, steamer, stranded off Ballygally; crew saved.
Luna, brigantine, stranded on Gunfleet Sand; crew saved.
Tordenskjold, Norwegian barque, and Spanish steamer, collided off Dover, Norwegian barque sank; six of crew drowned; captain and three men landed at Cardiff.
Aristides, schooner, wrecked at Rattray Briggs Monday night; one man saved.
Active, schooner, ashore in Lunan Bay, Montrose; crew saved.
Ornen, barque, was run ashore on Saturday afternoon on Bumburgh Sands in a sinking condition, and has since broken up; crew saved.

LAKE SEAMEN'S WAGES.

An American paper says:—It is to be regretted that the Vessel Owners' Association of Cleveland, Ohio, have been unable to maintain their list of wages paid last year, and we are credibly informed that the engineers have already repudiated the wages offered, and that they will not move a boat under last year's schedule of rates. We append a wages card for the past season and this:—

Steamers—First engineers, per month, May, 1891, 90 to 100 dols.; 2nd engineers, 55 to 65 dols.; 1st mates, 60 to 70 dols.; 2nd mates, 40 to 50 dols.; cooks, 40 to 50 dols.; helpers, 10 to 15 dols.; firemen, 25 to 30 dols.; wheelmen, 25 to 30 dols.; lookout, 20 to 25 dols.; deck hands, 15 dols.; oilers, 25 to 30 dols.

On Consorts and Sail—First mates, per month, May, 1891, 45 to 55 dols.; 2nd mates, 30 to 40 dols.; cooks, 20 to 30 dols.; seamen, 25 to 30 dols.; boy, 15 dols.

Steamers—First engineers, per month, May, 1890, 95 to 115 dols.; 2nd engineers, 65 to 75 dols.; 1st mates, 65 to 80 dols.; 2nd mates, 45 to 60 dols.; cooks, 45 to 55 dols.; helpers, 10 to 15 dols.; firemen, 30 to 35 dols.; wheelmen, 30 to 35 dols.; lookout, 30 to 35 dols.; deck hands, 15 dols.; oilers, 30 to 40 dols.

On Consorts and Sail—First mates, per month, May, 1890, 50 to 65 dols.; 2nd mates, 35 to 45 dols.; cooks, 30 to 35 dols.; seamen, 30 to 35 dols.; boy, 15 dols.

DOCKERS' WAGES AT DUNDEE.—The Dundee agent of the Arrow line of steamers to New York has intimated to the dockers of Dundee that in future he is only to pay them as follows:—Quay men, 7d. per hour instead of 8d. as at present; hold men, 7½d. instead of 8d., and overtime to be paid at the rate of 10d. per hour instead of 1s.

ENCOUNTER WITH PIRATES.—A young German seaman belonging to the crew of the German gunboat *Wolf*, has written home a letter containing an account of an encounter with Chinese pirates. The letter, of which a Berlin correspondent gives the following extract, is dated Hong Kong, Feb. 14:—On the way from Japan to China we approached some small islands, and a boat was lowered in order to land. The crew of the boat soon discovered behind one of the islands a vessel, which they believed to be manned with pirates, and they immediately turned back. A high sea, however, was running at the time, and it was very stormy. The boat capsized, and 10 men and the officer in command were struggling with the waves. Of these only seven were saved, and a lifeboat was lowered to try to pick up those who were missing. Evening came and the lifeboat did not return, and it was surmised that she had fallen into the hands of the pirates. The first cutter, manned by one officer and 14 seamen (of which I was one), each supplied with 60 ball cartridges, was then sent in search. We also carried one gun and provisions for six days. When, at 4 in the morning, we espied the Chinese junk, we made for her, and when close up saw our missing boat on board. The gun and rifles were loaded, and the German flag hoisted. But the pirates did not stand their ground, and tried to escape. The cutter fired immediately, the first shot smashing the deck of the junk. The enemy then became bewildered, and after a hard struggle we succeeded in gaining the deck of the pirate, where a hand-to-hand fight took place. Thirteen pirates were killed, and all the rest taken prisoners. The junk was searched, and down in the stowage we found our lost comrades, bound hand and foot. Both they and our prisoners were then carried in triumph on board the *Wolf*.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Correspondents must write on one side of the paper only, and to secure early publication be as brief as possible.

THANKS.

To the Editor of "Seafaring."

DEAR SIR,—Through the medium of your paper I desire to thank the officials and members of the Sunderland Branch of the Seamen's National Union, for the sum of £9 12s., subscribed by them and other friends in my bereavement.

(Signed) MARY ANN DERBYSHIRE. X

THE NAVAL RESERVE.

To the Editor of "Seafaring."

SIR,—In your last issue, your correspondent Mr. George Oowie, stated that the Admiralty were making inquiries as to how they may get men to join the Naval Reserve, and he thought the question should be answered through the press. Well, I for one will answer it through our valuable paper SEAFARING. 1. If the Admiralty wish to increase the Naval Reserve, let it find employment for the men walking about out of work. 2. If the owners of the mercantile marine want men to fight for them in time of war and protect their vessels, let them treat the men well in time of peace and not have their vessels manned by Chinamen and other foreigners, and then call on the Englishmen to fight for them in time of war. Some may say that they cannot get enough men to man their vessels. Where are all the unemployed? There is no chance for a man to bring his son up to the sea. If every vessel under the British flag was manned by Englishmen, there would not be the distress there is in England, and the Admiralty would have a better chance to get men than they have now. Hoping you will insert this in your valuable paper.—I remain, yours, etc.,

ONE OF THE DEATH OR GLORY BRANCH,

April 1, 1891.

TOO TRUE.

To the Editor of "Seafaring."

DEAR SIR,—Permit me to call your attention to the following from *Fairplay*, the shipowners' organ (grinder). "Shipowners are in no small degree indebted for their victory to the loyal and unwavering support they have received from their officers. What have these officers received in return?" asks *Fairplay*. "Has any advance in their pay been made commensurate with the advance which the 'Union' admittedly obtained for the seamen and firemen? I fear not." (Mind, *Fairplay* "fears not"!) "But the question is one that must be faced. Officers apathetic or indifferent are a source of weakness to owners, because they might connive, if the word is not too strong, at any time at pressure put on by the men. As a matter of justice not less than of policy it will be well for owners to see that their officers, on whom they are bound to rely, should at least derive an advantage equivalent to the service they have rendered to their owners by their loyalty and good faith." Thus *Fairplay*. "But why all this fuss?" Of the sincerity of *Fairplay* we may judge from the following (see March 6):—"To let Mr. Wilson do his worst, and to fight him to the last plank, and the last sixpence is the true business of the 'Federation'; it was for that it was formed; it is by that it will succeed; and the expense will be the merest bagatelle compared with the advantage that will accrue." Now if *F—?—play* thus hurls its hailstones at our poor sailors harmless club and smoking concerts to pander to the spite of capitalists, wherefore should it pretend to advocate the interests of officers? The answer is easily given, and not far to seek. Three or four local officers' clubs have coalesced, and formed line of battle under the title of a "Federation," under the espionage and control of the "Shipowners' Federation." There is a society in existence which is really and substantially a bona-fide friendly and benefit society, similar in its objects to the "Buffaloes," "Oddfellows," "Druids," etc., which is designated the "Union of Shipmasters and Officers of Great Britain and Ireland." Now we are not yet subjugated to the control of shipowners. Fates forbend we ever should be. It is to crush us that the shipowners' paper is pretending to be suddenly deeply moved, and its bowels of compassion painfully purged with pills of pity for the "poor officers." The next move will be probably to give an extra 6d. a year to those officers who sell themselves into slavery, by joining the "Shipowners' Shipmasters' Society," and kiss the big toe of the shipowners' secretary, Froud, of Fenchurch-street.

SHORT TOM COFFIN,

Several letters held over till next week.

AS OTHERS SEE US.

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Resolution passed at meetings of seafaring men in principal ports.—"This meeting pledges itself to support SEAFARING."
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Send subscriptions to JOHN W. HAYES, General Secretary-Treasurer, Box 885, Philadelphia, Pa.

SAFE ANCHORAGE.

WHERE TO BOARD. UNION BOARDING-HOUSES.

BARRY.—Mrs. Mooney, 6, Holm-st., Cadoxton.
 CARDIFF.—Seamen's Institute, West Bute-street.
 GLASGOW.—James Bracken, 182, Broomielaw.
 HULL.—N. A. S. & F. Union Home, 13, Robinson-row, Dagger-lane.
 Seamen's Union Home, 48, Mytongate.
 PLYMOUTH.—Mr. Stephens, 11, Bath-street.
 SWANSEA.—E. Dunn, 3, Strand.

The names and addresses of the keepers of Seamen's Boarding-houses will be inserted in SEAFARING at the rate of 2s. each per week, payable in advance. For 13 weeks the price is 15s.; for 26 weeks, 25s., payable in advance. These advertisements are intended as a Directory to seafaring men, so that on arriving at any port they have only to refer to SEAFARING to find where they can be comfortably boarded and fairly treated. No Seamen's Boarding house will be advertised in SEAFARING on any terms unless recommended by the Branch Secretary of the Sailors' and Firemen's Union in whose district the house is situated.

TUG BOAT BRANCH.

Tug Boat Men desirous of protecting their interests and improving their condition should at once join the above, while the entrance fee is low. They can be enrolled at any of the London Branch Offices of the Sailors' and Firemen's Union (mentioned on page 8 of SEAFARING), or at "Captain Man o' War," High Street, Poplar, any evening from 8 to 10 p.m. The weekly meeting of the Tug Boat Men is held at the "Captain Man o' War," High Street, Poplar, every Monday evening, and every Friday evening at "Old Amer-starm," Gravesend. Office hours 9 a.m. till 4 p.m., and 7 p.m. till 9 p.m.

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